THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

Nigella Lawson
Why food fads make me mad when so many have to struggle for a crust, **page 16**

20p
Holiday bonus
Weekend break for the price of *The Times*
Details, token, page 15

Matthew Parris
Back from his world travels to cast an irreverent eye on the Commons, **page 2**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,172 TUESDAY JANUARY 24 1995

Questions on who fired fatal shot

MPs demand release of jailed para

By Paul Wilkinson, Jonathan Prynn and Michael Evans

THE campaign to free Private Lee Clegg, the paratrooper jailed for life for killing a joyrider in Belfast in 1990, was taken up by at least 50 Tory MPs last night. They demanded an emergency Commons debate.

After his appeal against conviction was rejected by the Law Lords last week, the momentum for Clegg's release has increased dramatically.

Iain Duncan-Smith, Tory MP for Chingford, called for an emergency debate as a matter of great urgency because soldiers on patrol in Northern Ireland, making decisions affecting their lives and the lives of others, had been left uncertain about their position by the Law Lords' decision.

Last night from his cell in Wakefield prison, Clegg said that he was gratified by the support he was receiving from members of the public and *from retired Parachute* Regiment officers who have launched a campaign for his release.

Now in the third year of a life sentence, Clegg told BBC Radio: "I am overwhelmed by the level of support. My sole aim in life is, as a British citizen, to do my part for Queen and country."

The Tory MPs signed a *Commons motion* expressing dismay at the Clegg's conviction and calling for his speedy release. The motion demands *that the Government* gives legal force to British soldiers' rules of engagement in Northern Ireland "so that charges *can never again* be brought against soldiers who open fire under circumstances conforming to them".

Clegg: overwhelmed by level of support

Although Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, turned down the call for an emergency debate, she did not rule out the possibility of an MP addressing the matter in one of the brief backbench debates at the end of each day's sitting.

Yesterday the *main* supporters of Clegg, 26, raised new doubts about the conviction. A team of former members of the Parachute Regiment, supported by Simon McKay, Clegg's lawyer, claimed that he might not have fired the fatal bullet. Clegg was sentenced in 1992 for the murder of Karen Reilly, 18, a passenger in a stolen car fired on by *an Army patrol* as it crashed through a roadblock in West Belfast. Statements that might have supported him were not *taken from other soldiers*.

A no-jury trial in Belfast was told that Miss Reilly had been hit in the back by the last *of four bullets fired by* Clegg. The judge ruled that although the shots were fired within three seconds, the final one was unjustified as the car had gone past the soldier and was no longer a threat.

Mr Duncan-Smith emphasised that the "yellow card", which tells soldiers in Ulster when they might fire, included the words: "You may only open fire against a person deliberately driving a vehicle at a person and there is no other way of stopping him."

Yesterday Mr McKay said they were seeking a re-examination of scientific evidence given at the trial. It had indicated that Clegg's shot was one of those which killed Miss Reilly, but statements taken since by Mr McKay from other members of the patrol suggested that he might not have fired the fatal bullet.

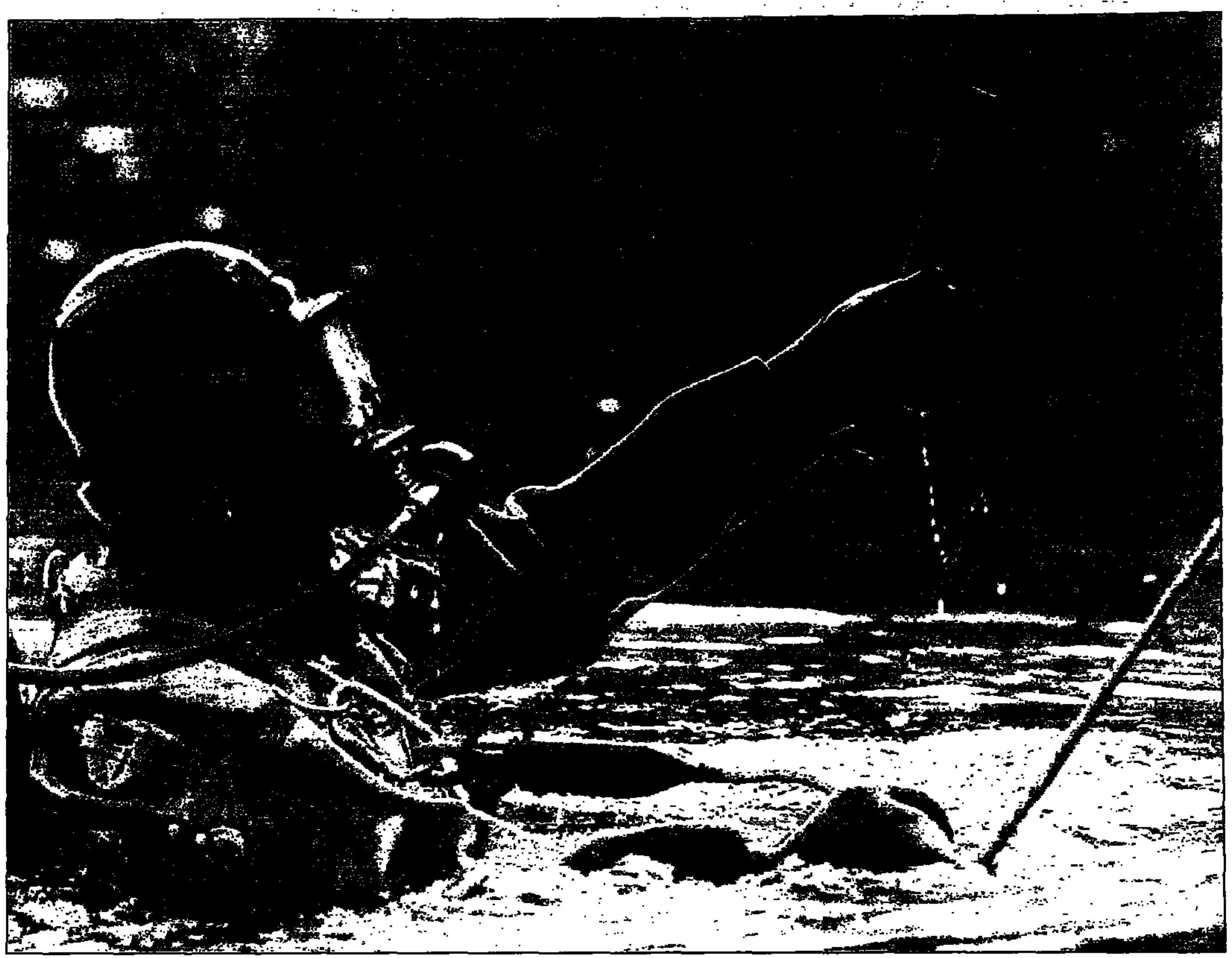
He traced four members of the 17-strong unit, and two had told him they were still firing at the car as it passed, but Pte Clegg had stopped.

Mr McKay said: "The ballistic issues were not challenged satisfactorily by Clegg's defence. This crucial evidence was given by a retired firearms specialist. From his evidence, it appears that he had no academic qualifications as his report seems to have been prepared with the help of other people. The *report had five different* types of handwriting.

"There was an acceptance by the defence from the begin-

Continued on page 2, col 4

Critical seconds, page 2
Leading article, and Letters, page 19
Photograph, page 22



A diver surfaces with a hatchet from the Queen's Mere on Wimbledon Common yesterday. Wimbledon magistrates gave Mr Stagg and Miss Beddoes bail

Stagg banned from Wimbledon Common

Stagg: told he *must not* contact witnesses

By Bill Frost

POLICE divers recovered a hatchet yesterday from Queen's Mere on Wimbledon Common close to the scene where Colin Stagg, who was cleared last year of murdering Rachel Nickell, is alleged to have attacked a father and son. Earlier, Mr Stagg had appeared in court charged *with assault and carrying an* offensive weapon.

He and his girlfriend, Diane Beddoes, were re*manded on* bail *until* February 6 on condition that they avoided the Common and did not contact witnesses. The pair were jointly charged with possessing an offensive weapon, affray, and assault causing actual bodily harm.

They appeared at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court, south-west London, having been arrested after an alleged *incident on the common on* Sunday involving a man in his 30s and his 11-year-old son. Reporting restrictions were *not lifted*. Mr Stagg, 31, of Roehampton, south-west London, was held in police custody overnight. Ms Beddoes, 26, had to run a gauntlet of photographers.

After Mr Stagg was granted bail, Ian Ryan, his solicitor, condemned some press coverage of the alleged incident. "It is utterly disgraceful it should be reported like this," he said, *adding that he would compile* a dossier of cuttings to pass to the Attorney General. He reminded the media that his *client was "innocent until* proven guilty".

Beddoes: *remanded to* appear on February 6

Glaxo bids £9 bn for Wellcome

By Sarah Bagnall

GLAXO yesterday offered £8.9 billion for Wellcome, the rival drugs company, making it the biggest takeover bid in British history.

The offer has been accepted by The Wellcome Trust, which holds nearly 40 per cent of the shares. The balance is held by management, institutional investors and the public. Management is considering the offer.

Glaxo said it expects to pay out another £500 million to Wellcome's directors and staff if they exercise all their share options. According to the latest annual report, John Robb, the chairman and chief executive, has options over 251,000 shares, now worth £2.6 million.

Glaxo Wellcome would be the biggest pharmaceutical company in the world, with a market share of 5.3 per cent and a research budget of more than £1.2 billion.

Glaxo said that the deal would result in plant closures and job losses. Sir Richard Sykes, chief executive, said: "There is going to be significant rationalisation when you bring together two companies doing the same thing."

Paul Talbot, national officer for MSF, the largest staff union for both companies, said: "Any overlap in activities . . . would mean job losses."

Glaxo is Britain's biggest drug company. Wellcome is the fourth largest.

Wellcome's history, page 17
£9 billion bid, page 23
***Pennington*, page 25**

INDEX

Births, marriages, deaths 20
Bridge 8
Chess 8, 44
Crossword 22
Diary 18
Leading articles 19
Letters 19
Obituaries 21
Weather 22
TV & Radio 42-43

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Opt-out heads seek charity assurances

Head teachers of grant-maintained schools are to demand assurances about the Labour Party's threat to restrict charitable status when they meet David Blunkett, Shadow Education Secretary, next month.

Concern that opt-out schools might be affected by any scrapping of the charitable status threatens to strain already difficult relations between the present 1,000 grant-maintained schools and Labour, which wants to bring them back under some form of local authority control . Page 5

Private money in the Treasury

The Treasury is to be rebuilt with private sector money. Private developers will be offered a chance to acquire part of the *Portland* stone building on the corner of Parliament Square and Whitehall, in exchange for financing the refurbishing .... Page 25

CSA shakeup eases woes of middle-class fathers

By *Jill Sherman, political correspondent*

PETER LILLEY yesterday bowed to pressure from middle-class fathers and Tory MPs and announced sweeping changes to the Child Support Agency.

The Social Security Secretary unveiled reforms intended to ease the burden on both low income and better off families. He has also deferred indefinitely the date when the agency starts reassessing parents who are not on benefit.

The £270 million package of measures, outlined in a White Paper, comes after a barrage of criticism from fathers, pressure groups and Conservative MPs. The agency's pursuit of absent fathers has been linked to suicides by parents faced with child maintenance bills they cannot afford.

In other cases families have been bankrupted by the payments demanded. Mr Lilley hopes that the proposals, to be introduced in a bill later this year, will be enough to rescue the agency, which was criticised last week by the parliamentary ombudsman.

Mr Lilley told the Commons:: "The Child Support Agency has performed less well than I would wish, in spite of hard work by its staff." He said the adjustments should enable more absent parents to pay child maintenance regularly. "As a result, they will give more parents with care and their children the chance of a better life."

The reforms, which will be phased in over three years, include capping maintenance payments, giving extra help with travel and housing costs, and cash bonuses for mothers taking up work. From April absent parents will not have to pay more than 30 per cent of their net income on child maintenance. The maximum level of maintenance now payable will also be halved.

Capital and property transactions made in clean-break settlements will be taken into account. Absent fathers will be given an extra allowance if they travel more than 15 miles to work, and the full allowance for housing costs for new partners and stepchildren.

From 1996-97 parents will have the right to appeal against their settlement, intitially to the agency, and then to an independent Child Support Appeal Tribunal. But the most significant move is Mr Lilley's decision to defer the date when parents not on benefit are assessed. The Government's original intention was that parents who had had court settlements before 1993 would be assessed again from

Continued on page 2, col 1

***Main changes*, page 2**

Diamonds turn blue and the clubs are green

By Alan Hamilton

THE PACK of cards is about to explode into full colour, with each suit a different shade instead of the customary red and black.

In a break with tradition said to be aimed at short-sighted poker players in smoke-filled rooms, some American casino owners will begin playing with a four-coloured pack of cards next month in which hearts remain red and spades black, *but diamonds become* a distinctive blue and clubs an equally unmistakable green.

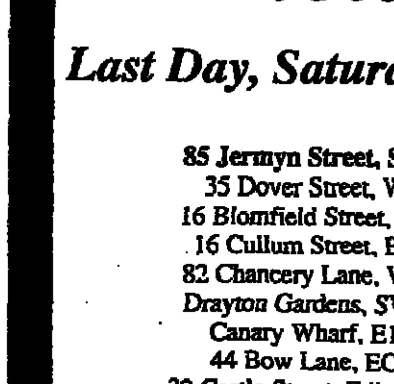
Nic Szeremeta, British representative of the *Las Vegas*-based *Card Player* magazine, said yesterday that the change was particularly relevant to a poker flush, in which five cards of the same suit is one of the better hands. "It will speed up play by enabling players to see much more clearly what hands the others are holding; as the casinos take a cut on every hand played, they are clearly interested in anything that speeds the game."

British card players paid grudging lip-service to a good idea yesterday, but gave little indication that they were about to rush out and order multicoloured decks. Waddington's Games, the country's largest playing card manufacturer, said: "We produce many different designs of cards to order, but we have never been asked to produce packs with the suits in four different colours. Bridge players in particular seem very traditional in this respect."

Robert Sheehan, *The Times* bridge correspondent, agreed that it may be a decent idea. "People do occasionally play the wrong card, but the trouble with changing the colours is that the whole literature of bridge would have to be rewritten."

John Graham, who also writes on bridge for *The Times* and who in private plays a mean poker hand, welcomed the idea of a four-colour pack. "As you get older and your eyesight falters, the small diamonds keep finding their way into the heart suits, and that can be very expensive."

The Americans' need for four-colour decks arises, it transpires, not from bridge *but from a popular variety of* poker known as Texas Hold'Em, in which up to ten



players crowd round a table, often out of sharp eyesight *range of the "flop" of cards* being dealt.

Bridge, page 8

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Territorial squabbles keep to the pecking order

Eagle: "Feisty little chinstrap penguin"

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

JET-AGE intercontinental travel leaves us struggling to adjust. After Christmas your sketchwriter sped to Chile, then Antarctica. There he saw the whole gamut of polar life crowding the shores: teams of portly waddling mammals, full of self-importance, waving their flippers, squabbling in cliques, and guarding their territory.

But try as I might to see them as penguins, I kept seeing them as MPs. It took a week to accept them as wingless birds — and then it was time to go. Waving farewell to Antarctica your sketchwriter jetted in to London hours before the Commons sat yesterday.

And I looked down. There I *saw teams of portly waddling* mammals, full of self-importance, waving their arms, squabbling over territory. Try as I might to see MPs I kept seeing penguins. Must another week pass before the shriek of the chinstrap penguin and the smell of guano fade from my thoughts at Westminster?

The chinstrap is the closest parallel: a chippy and cantankerous bird, the bovver-boy of the penguin community. But there are other parallels with MPs: in Antarctica, as in politics, plankton is the elemental form of life. Krill feed off plankton. Penguins feed off krill. Seals feed off penguins. Nobody much eats seals.

At Westminster too the plankton are where it all starts. Yesterday David Congdon (C, Croydon NE), a retired computer consultant and sometime member of Croydon council, asked Social Security ministers to permit him to welcome their decision to cap housing benefit. Geoffrey Clifton-Brown (C, Cirencester & Tewkesbury) was keen to welcome the reformed habitual residence test.

Never mock plankton, a primitive form of life but basis of the party food-chain and noble in their way. Where the current goes, there will the plankton be. Nor should we mock the krill, a prawn-like being with rudimentary powers of self-propulsion.

Yesterday Peter Pike (Lab, Burnley), admittedly a rather large prawn, was ritually outraged about Tory management of income support; while David Evennett (C, Erith & Crayford) was overjoyed that the Government's medical tests for incapacity were "seen to be fair and consistent".

Such expressions of opinion are habitually greeted with supporting sighs of assent or dismay from the massed plankton, wriggles of excitement from other krill …

… And shrieks and pecks from the penguins. Yesterday Angela Eagle (Lab, Wallasey), a feisty little chinstrap, squawked at ministers that legions were being ripped off by occupational pensions, while John Marshall (C, Hendon S), a portly penguin, flippered his fellow-birds into a show of support for rent-ceilings for housing benefit. Alan Duncan (C, Rutland & Melton), a trim bird, his beak a-jab, led the younger Tory chinstraps in an attack on Tony Blair's pension proposals.

The seals had seen it all before. Down below the gangway, old buffers with tummies bask near-horizontal in the lights, whiskers a-twitch, emitting the occasional low bark as the debate (or dyspepsia) moves them.

Yesterday Sir Peter Emery (C, Honiton) kept a weather-eye open from his favourite rock next to Sir Edward Heath's reserved sand-patch. Labour has its ageing bull seals too (and cows) though of late Mr Hattersley has been missing from the beach.

But when those old boys want to settle a score or take a careless penguin they can move with astonishing speed and power. But mostly they daydream …

Or do I?

Deadline for service pregancy claims set

Women dismissed from the services because they became pregnant have until April 30 to lodge claims for compensation. The deadline announcement follows the decision by the Ministry of Defence to apply the Sex Discrimination Act to Armed Forces personnel from February 1. A spokesman for the Armed Forces Pregnancy Dismissal Group also urged women who terminated their pregnancies rather than lose their jobs to apply for compensation.

Prison security

Prison governors have asked to see Richard Wilson, Home Office permanent under secretary, to discuss investigations into prison security. The request was made yesterday when prison governors' leaders ers met Derek Lewis, head of the Prison Service.

Triple inquest

Inquests on three men whose car was in a collision with a horsebox driven by the showjumper Harvey Smith were opened and adjourned in Leeds yesterday. Daniel Larvin, 7, who suffered head injuries in the crash on Saturday, was still critically ill.

Award attacked

The £1.5 million libel damages that Count Nikolai Tolstoy was ordered to pay Lord Aldington were "wholly disproportionate", Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC, said yesterday opening a challenge before the European Court of Human Rights.

Victim named

The latest child victim of meningococcal meningitis was named last night as Donna Downie, of Castle Kennedy, Dumfries and Galloway. Donna, 15, died on Sunday, two days after being admitted to hospital.

MoD in dark

Ministry of Defence offices in Whitehall were blacked out after water seeped into the electricity supply. Power was maintained in senior officers' and ministers' offices but other workers were sent home early.

Murder charge

Phillip Manning appeared before magistrates in Tredegar, Gwent, yesterday charged with the murder of his ex-wife Margaret Whitcombe and the attempted murder of her boyfriend Neil Jones, both aged 42.

Tree-top eviction

The High Court has issued a possession order against anti-motorway protesters occupying a tree-top "village" in Stanworth Woods near Blackburn, which they say will be damaged in building the M65.

Post backlog

More than six million letters were still trapped in sorting offices and sealed pillar boxes in London last night as the Post Office struggled to deal with a huge backlog of mail caused by a weekend strike by 13,000 workers.

Prince's valet quits after admitting misconduct

By A Staff Reporter

THE Prince of Wales's personal valet resigned last night after admitting "gross misconduct" by betraying his master's trust.

Ken Stronach's 16 years of service in the Prince's household ended in disgrace after he admitted taking sneak photographs at the Prince's Highgrove home in Gloucestershire and talked to the *News of the World*.

St James's Palace also acted to gag Wendy Berry, a former Highgrove housekeeper, who was allegedly trying to sell more bedtime secrets from the Prince's household. An injunction banning her from making further revelations was obtained by the Prince's lawyers in the High Court yesterday, according to Henry Boyd-Carpenter of Farrer and Co, acting for the Prince. Mrs Berry was also ordered by the court to surrender all diaries and other manuscripts in her possession to the Prince's solicitors.

Mr Stronach, 50, loses his £12,000-a-year job, his grace and favour home in south London and his car.

Commander Richard Aylard, the Prince's private secretary, began an inquiry into Mr Stronach's actions after intimate details of the affair between the Prince and Camilla Parker Bowles appeared in the *News of the World* on January 15. The inquiry concluded that the sneak pictures, including one of a photograph of Mrs Parker Bowles at the Prince's bedside, and the revelations did not add up to a breach of security.

Mr Stronach, who did not receive a penny for his claims, is said to regret bitterly having gone to the *News of the World*. He has disputed statements attributed to him and incidents described in the newspaper.

The Prince's lawyers last week obtained a High Court injunction restraining Mr Stronach and his son, who was also involved in the failed deal with the paper, from making further revelations.

Mr Boyd-Carpenter said in a statement to PA News: "Disciplinary procedures against Mr Ken Stronach have proved unnecessary. Mr Stronach has accepted that his actions with respect to the articles in the *News of the World* of January 15 constituted gross misconduct under the terms of his contract.

"In view of his 16 years of previously unblemished loyal service, his resignation has been accepted. Mr Stronach has made a full apology to the Prince of Wales and has reiterated that he has received no payment whatsoever from the newspaper.

"Mr Stronach and Mr Ken Stronach Jnr have agreed to give perpetual undertakings to the court not to commit any further breaches of Mr Stronach's confidentiality undertaking, and to account for any money they may receive." The statement added: "The matter is now closed."

With regard to Mrs Berry, it said: "An interim court order has been made against Mrs Wendy Berry restraining her from any further discussion of her employment within the household of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

"Mrs Berry has been ordered by the court to surrender all diaries and other manuscripts in her possession to the Prince's solicitors. In addition an order will be sought requiring her to account for any money she may have received."

Stronach: made full apology to Prince

JOHN GILES

Jack and Wynne Johnson, left, Lee Clegg's stepfather and mother, and his stepmother and father Caroline and Stanley yesterday

Split second that separates soldier from killer

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent

PRIVATE Lee Clegg, who was sentenced to life for murdering a teenager travelling in a joyrider's car, denies turning from a professional soldier to a murderer within a split second.

Clegg, 26, a member of 3 Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, thought he was opening fire on terrorists when he shot at a stolen Vauxhall Astra as it sped away from an Army checkpoint in republican West Belfast in September 1990. He believes he was acting in accordance with Army regulations when he fired four shots at the car to protect a fellow member of the patrol. The Army's rules of engagement say a soldier may open fire "whenever his own life or the lives of any other person may be at risk".

At Clegg's trial at Belfast Crown Court in 1993, Mr Justice Campbell accepted that the first three rounds were fired justifiably by Clegg because he believed the stolen car was being driven straight at Pte Aindow. But the judge said the fourth shot could not be justified because it was fired when the car, and therefore the perceived threat to life, had passed.

Clegg was convicted of the murder of Karen Reilly, 18, one of three teenagers in the car. She died along with Martin Peake, 17, the car's driver, after the Astra was hit by at least 19 shots fired by the Army patrol after ignoring warnings to stop. Markievicz Gorman, the third passenger in the car, was injured in the arm.

Aindow was sentenced to seven years for the attempted murder of Mr Peake. He is now free after his sentence was reduced on appeal to four years for malicious wounding.

One of the most important elements of the Crown case was evidence from an RUC officer who had been on duty with the paratroopers. The police officer said their decision to open fire was "totally unjustified" because nobody in the patrol had been in danger.

The officer said that after the shooting he allegedly heard one soldier being told: "Get down, you're it." He then allegedly saw another soldier stamp on his leg to make it appear that he had been hit by the car.

Mr Justice Campbell said Clegg had set out on the patrol to maintain law and order, and he had not intended to kill anyone unlawfully. But the judge added: "He was suddenly faced with a car driving through an Army checkpoint and, being armed with a high-velocity rifle to enable him to combat the threat of terrorism, he decided to fire the fourth shot in circumstances which cannot be justified."

Five Law Lords last week rejected an appeal by Clegg to have his conviction for murder reduced to manslaughter. The Law Lords said that while a person acting in self-defence, or a police officer arresting an offender, had a choice about the degree of force used, a soldier serving in Northern Ireland had "no scope for graduated force".

Clegg's family are comparing the case with that of Private Ian Thain, the only other soldier to be convicted of murder while serving in Northern Ireland. In 1985 Pte Thain was sentenced to life for killing a man in West Belfast in 1983. He served 26 months and then rejoined his regiment.

MPs demand release, page 1
Leading article, page 19

MPs demand para's release

Continued from page 1

ning that the round recovered from the girl's body was Clegg's. There was no vigorous testing of this evidence by the defence."

Mr McKay said they were also asking Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, to use special powers to order an early, if not immediate release, for Clegg.

***The Northern Ireland Office* last night issued a statement detailing powers which could lead to Clegg's early release. He still comes under the jurisdiction of the Northern Ireland Office because he has been transferred from *the Province* on a temporary basis.**

The department said that Sir Patrick had the power to refer Clegg's conviction to the Court of Appeal if he considered there was new evidence which could render his conviction unsafe and unsatisfactory. The Northern Ireland Office added that even if the conviction stood, Sir Patrick had the power to free Clegg at any time.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Gray, who was Colonel Commandant of the Parachute Regiment until 1993, said last night that he was writing to General Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the General Staff, raising all the issues surrounding the case.

Leading article, and Letters, page 19
Photograph, page 22

CSA reforms help middle classes

Continued from page 1

April 1996. Under the new bill, that date will be repealed and no further date is expected to be given.

The Social Security Department said last night that the *date would be kept under* review, fuelling speculation that these parents — mainly from the middle classes — would never be chased up by the agency.

The agency has collected £473 million since 1993, by making 400,000 assessments and tracing 58,000 absent fathers. The new measures, however, will cost £50 million this year, rising to £110 million in each of the subsequent years, considerably reducing the net savings to the Exchequer.

*The reforms, which go be*yond proposals suggested by the all-party social security select committee last year, were broadly welcomed by Conservative MPs last night.

Anthony Steen (C South Hams) said the statement was "first rate". To Opposition jeers, he added: "It does show that this side of the House not only listens to what the public says, but acts on what it hears."

Donald Dewar, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, said there "would be no trench warfare" but accused Mr Lilley of "complacency writ large" for not acting sooner. "The tragedy is that reforms *which might have made an* impact 18 months ago will now have to contend with the bitterness that has built up in the system."

Pressure groups hailed some of the changes although some complained that they did not go far enough. Michael Jarman, director of child care at the children's charity Barnardo's, said the changes were a "wasted opportunity" and would not benefit the poorest children. "Absent fathers were the most vocal lobby against the Child Support Agency and the Government has listened to their views," he said. "But I am disappointed that Peter Lilley *has not given equal consider*ation to the concerns of lone mothers."

Network, an organisation that has campaigned against the CSA, said it was disappointed. "The changes will mean an awful lot more work for an agency which has already shown it cannot handle the information and has an 80 per cent failure rate. We wait with interest to see how they perform."

THE WHITE PAPER: MAIN POINTS

The main proposals in the White Paper *Improving Child Support*

- **From 1997 parents to have a limited right of appeal against assessment as a safety valve in genuine hardship cases.**
- **Date on which CSA to take on parents who are not on benefit postponed indefinitely.**
- **From April 1995 no absent parent will have to pay more than 30 per cent of his net income in child maintenance.**
- **Property and capital "clean-break" settlements before April 1993 will be taken into account. This assumes that ex-partners were entitled to half any equity worth more than £5,000.**
- **Allowances will be given for high travel costs, 10p a mile if over 15 miles, and housing costs for second family will be paid in full.**
- **Maximum level of maintenance payable under the formula to be almost halved. Better off parents, now paying up to £400 a week, will in future pay a maximum of £250.**
- **From April 1997 *mothers* on benefit will be able to build up maintenance credit, £5 a week, to to be paid as lump sum — maximum £1,000 — if they get a job.**
- **Those on family credit and disability working allowance will be compensated for loss of maintenance from above changes.**

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'Iranian was behind Lockerbie'

By Michael Evans

THE Lockerbie bombing was financed by a hardline Iranian figure, Ayatollah Mohtashemi, according to a declassified document from the United States National Security Agency.

An Iranian-backed terrorist group, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command, was initially thought to be responsible for the attack, which killed 270 people in December 1988. However, after a long investigation, this theory was *dropped and two Libyan in*telligence officers were charged with the attack.

The National Security Agency document dated March 1991 refers to Lockerbie and Ayatollah Mohtashemi, the former Iranian Interior Minister who founded the Lebanese Hezbollah. It says he had "recently paid $10 million" to two terrorist organisations, the Abu Abbas and Abu Nidal groups. The document goes on to say that he "paid the same amount to bomb Pan Am Flight 103 in retaliation for the US shootdown of the Iranian Airbus".

Big companies find civil justice takes too long

By Frances Gibb
Legal Correspondent

BIG firms back Lord Woolf's proposals to cut the cost and delay of civil justice by curbing barristers' speeches and limiting the length of trials, a new survey has found.

The survey of British companies who use the civil courts found that many support a shift away from the focus on oral advocacy in civil trials. They want judges, not the parties ro the dispute, to control the pace of proceedings and to determine how *long cases should take*. More than 60 per cent of the firms favoured a paper trial instead of one based on oral argument and evidence; and a substantial majority wanted control of the timetable of cases given to a "procedural" judge. The ideas are among those floated by Lord Woolf, the Law Lord appointed by the Lord Chancellor to inquire into civil justice.

The survey also found that nearly all the companies felt *that finding* a way *to end their* dispute in the litigation process was more important than a guaranteed day in court.

Woolf: proposals backed by British firms

Four in five said that the system — and judges — could do more to facilitate settlements before cases reached court.

The survey, commissioned by the City law firm Herbert Smith, is published to coincide with a seminar today on civil justice. Drawn from a sample of the top 400 companies in *The Times* Top 1,000, it found widespread criticism of the length, complexity and cost of civil justice. "A substantial *majority (70 per cent) suggest*ed the whole system takes too long, whilst almost 40 per cent suggest the costs of litigation are far too high," the survey found. The largest firms were particularly critical of the length of civil litigation; nearly all said it needed to be changed. About half the companies in the survey considered that the time taken, and the costs involved, represented a substantial barrier to taking a case to court.

Although 66 per cent of the banks were not satisfied with the system, 77 per cent of insurance companies were satisfied. Charles Plant, head of litigation at Herbert Smith, said. "Could it be that insurance companies who generally are involved for the defendant are able to use the cost and delay of the system to their advantage whereas banks may more often be the plaintiffs?"

Law, pages 35 and 37

A photograph that appeared in Passport to France (January 6) was of the village of Lambesc, and not, as the caption incorrectly stated, Rognes. We apologise for the error.

Inquest opens on 23 Britons killed when law enforcement officers ended cult siege

Father of family lured to Waco predicted disaster

Sam Henry: "I warned them that they were on the path to destruction"

By Kate Alderson

A MAN whose wife and five children were burnt to death in the raid on the Branch Davidian cult in Waco, Texas, told an inquest that he had warned his family that involvement with the cult would lead to their destruction.

Sam Henry, speaking on the first day of the inquest into the deaths of the 23 Britons who died in Waco in April 1993, said David Koresh had lured his family from Britain. "I warned them that they were on the path to destruction but they wouldn't listen, they tried to convert me." Mr Henry, 58, told Leonard Gorodkin, the Manchester Coroner.

The inquest on the 23, aged 6 to 60, will hear detailed evidence of how the camp's inhabitants died. Seventy-five Koresh followers died in the inferno at the end of a 51-day siege and Koresh was found shot through the head.

The coroner said there had been no full public hearing into the events surrounding Waco. Mr Gorodkin became involved after the first bodies returned to Britain arrived at Manchester airport. Ten were from the Manchester area, six from London, six from Nottinghamshire and one from Preston.

Mr Henry said that Diana, 28, one of his three daughters, was introduced to the cult by John McBean, her boyfriend, who also died in the fire. She left her university studies in Britain in 1988 to follow Koresh, then known as Vernon Howells, to Waco.

Mr Henry visited his daughter a year later and was introduced to Howells. He said he was "immediately and instinctively wary" of Howells, who tried to persuade him to join the sect. Mr Henry told him he would remain a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. "He became almost hysterical," Mr Henry said. "He threatened to whip me. I told him the Bible had warned of false prophets and he was one."

In April 1990 his wife, other two daughters and two sons told him they were leaving for Waco. "There was no warning," Mr Henry said. After further trips to the camp, his family, including his wife Zilla, 55, remained there. By March 1992 the whole family were avid followers living in Waco and, according to Mr Henry, brainwashed.

The family became obsessed with the notion of Koresh as "the Messiah". Mr Henry said: "They were told by David Koresh that they were not holy enough to pray to God. Koresh was the mediator between God and man."

Koresh told Mr Henry that he did not love his family if he did not join them. Mr Henry's final contact was a conversation with his son five weeks before the raid.

"It was Phillip who I talked with and I said, 'You have called me a fool for not joining you but sooner or later you will realise that your father is not a fool as you all made me out to be'." Within the Waco compound followers were regularly physically punished, Mr Henry said, and he had heard of children being abused. One of his sons had been whipped on his bare bottom by Koresh, Mr Henry said.

Koresh planned to die in 1993, Mr Henry said, and intended taking his followers with him. Mr Henry warned the US authorities and the Waco police of a potential massacre. "But their intervention was a destruction," he said.

Detective Chief Superintendent Albert Yates of Greater Manchester Police, who has led the investigation into the British deaths, said the raid was doomed to failure. "It had very little, if any, chance of success," he said. The hearing is expected to last five days.

Mr Henry and his wife Zilla surrounded by their children Pauline, left, Phillip, Stephen, Diana and Vanessa

The Waco inferno, where Mr Henry's family died

Man accused of poisoning tonic water 'sympathised with victims'

By Gillian Bowditch
Scotland Correspondent

A MAN accused of lacing supermarket tonic water with the poison atropine sympathised later with some of his alleged victims, the High Court in Edinburgh was told yesterday. Paul Agutter's wife was among the alleged victims, and he told one couple that he felt guilty because he had bought the drink that affected her.

"He said he felt terribly guilty because he had been the only person who did the shopping, and had poured the drinks out," Elizabeth Sharwood-Smith said. She also told the jury that Mr Agutter, a biochemistry lecturer, discussed atropine with her husband, a consultant anaesthetist, and concentrations of the poison after visiting their home.

Her husband had previously suspected an atropine-like substance might be responsible for the poisoning and was angry that nothing had been done about his suspicion that tonic water was involved. Mr Agutter told him: "Don't worry, you did everything you could," she said.

Mr Agutter, of Athelstaneford, Lothian, denies trying to kill his wife and a girl aged 11 by giving them gin and tonic laced with atropine, a derivative of deadly nightshade. He also denies endangering the lives of eight people who drank spiked tonic water that he allegedly put on shelves at a Safeway store in Edinburgh in August.

The trial, before Lord Morison, was told that Mr Agutter had financial problems and was suicidal over the break-up of his marriage. Also, he was under pressure to marry his girlfriend.

Dr Ross Langlands told the court that ten days before the alleged poisoning of his wife, Mr Agutter had telephoned in great distress. The GP reported that his patient was "incoherent, deeply distressed and weepy", and he immediately went to his home because he thought he might be contemplating suicide.

There, Mr Agutter told him about his difficulties as a result of a financial settlement with his wife Alexandra. Dr Langlands said the marriage was effectively over but the couple were staying together under the same roof for the sake of their child. The GP suggested Mr Agutter contact a solicitor and the marriage guidance charity Relate. After 90 minutes he seemed much calmer and his GP noted that he seemed to believe "life was worth living".

A week after seeing his GP, Mr Agutter was spotted acting suspiciously in the Safeway store at Hunter's Tryst, Edinburgh, by Jonathan Dearden, a student who stacked shelves. Mr Dearden, 21, told the court that Mr Agutter had bottles of tonic water hidden under a jacket in his trolley and he saw him put two bottles back on the shelf. Mr Dearden assumed that Mr Agutter was shoplifting and reported him to a store detective.

Mrs Sharwood-Smith, 46, told how she became ill after pouring herself a Martini and tonic. Her 18-year-old son Andrew drank a glass of the tonic. "I began to be unable to eat the meal. I couldn't chew or swallow. Andrew felt the same way. I felt very unwell for the rest of the evening," she said. Two days later they again drank tonic water. Half an hour later Mrs Sharwood-Smith, she said, she felt very unwell and when her husband returned he called a doctor and they were admitted to hospital.

Marie Mason, 52, told the court that after she drank some tonic water she began to feel unwell and fell over when she was getting undressed. Later she could not sit up and her husband had to help her out of bed. She felt very thirsty and drank more tonic the following day. Her vision started to become affected and she started talking gibberish. Initially when admitted to hospital the doctors believed she was showing symptoms of alcohol abuse.

The trial continues.

Boy admits part in Florida killing

By A Staff Reporter

A TEENAGER accused of shooting dead a British tourist during a bungled robbery at a motorway rest area in Florida pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of second-degree murder yesterday and may face a 40-year prison sentence.

Aundra Akins, 16, was accused of firing the shot that killed Gary Colley, 34, a mechanical engineer from Bradford, in the attack in September 1993. Mr Colley's companion, Margaret Jagger, was wounded in the attack, which happened as the couple slept in a rental car during a journey from New Orleans to south Florida.

The plea agreement was reached less than an hour before jury selection was set to begin for Akins. He admitted charges of murder and attempted first-degree murder in the wounding of Ms Jagger. Akins was one of four youths charged with murder and becomes the third teenager to plead to lesser charges.

The first trial of John "Billy Joe" Crumitie, 18, ended in a split jury in November. As part of Akins' plea bargain, he agreed to testify against Crumitie at a retrial due to begin on March 20.

One of the most crucial pieces of evidence against Akins will be the eyewitness testimony of Ms Jagger, who identified him in a police line-up last summer. Shortly after the killing, she failed to pick Akins or Crumitie from police photographs. In a live line-up about nine months later, she failed to identify Crumitie but picked Akins.

Margaret Jagger and Gary Colley

Soldier left out with broken neck

By A Staff Reporter

A YOUNG soldier with a broken neck was manhandled and left out in the cold overnight with devastating consequences, despite desperate pleas for medical attention, the High Court was told yesterday. David Inker, 27, was left wheelchair-bound for life after a night of "unrestrained drinking" by soldiers in the Royal Army Medical Corps, the court was told.

A piece of horseplay backfired when a 15-stone colleague leapt upon Mr Inker, breaking his neck, his counsel, Christopher Gardner, QC, said. He was "cursorily examined" before being placed on a groundsheet, wearing only a sports jacket, T-shirt and trousers, "to endure a long night of cold and fear". "He pleaded for medical attention but was left alone, cold and paralysed," Mr Gardner said.

Mr Inker, of Chippenham, Wiltshire, is seeking compensation from the Ministry of Defence. He was 19 and had been in the RAMC for three months when his unit was sent on exercise to Craig-y-Dinas, Gwynnedd, the court was told.

On the evening of July 12, 1987, Mr Inker and his colleagues visited the Dinas Rock Hotel. Mr Gardner told the court: "During the evening there was heavy and unrestrained drinking, although Mr Inker did not drink alcohol." On his return to camp Mr Inker saw a fellow soldier, Private Johns, asleep on the tailboard of a lorry. As a prank he released the chain supporting the tailboard, tipping the soldier on to the ground. A chase ensued and Private Johns leapt upon his fellow soldier, landing on him with his full 15 stone weight, said counsel.

On the ground, Mr Inker realised "to his horror" that his legs were bent when they felt as though they were stretched. "He believed that he had broken his neck. He was in fact correct," Mr Gardner said. The Troop Sergeant, Sgt Foster, who arrived on the scene, believed he was drunk, he added.

"He ordered the recruits to take David Inker by the armpits, stand him up and then let go. He collapsed again and his head and neck came into contact with the ground. "We say that he caused him to be handled in a way that defies belief and can only be explained by excessive consumption of alcohol by Troop Sergeant Foster."

The Ministry of Defence admits negligence on the part of Sergeant Foster but denies Mr Inker's injury was exacerbated by the handling he received. The hearing continues.

Man claims against 'sexist' council

By Kathryn Knight

A MAN claims to be the victim of sexual discrimination after being rejected for 11 jobs by a council that is taking "positive action" to recruit more women.

Dennis Hopkins, 58, told an industrial tribunal that he and his son had been turned down by Labour-controlled Norwich council because it operates a positive discrimination policy, with many training positions advertised as "opportunities for women". The former council car-park attendant said that in the past 18 months he had applied for posts ranging from information assistant to purchasing clerk.

"My applications over such a long period were refused because there is a clear preference for females," he said.

The tribunal was told that the council had a "positive action" jobs policy called Springboard, under which women were trained in jobs where they were often under-represented, such as building and bricklaying.

However, Mr Hopkins, of Northfields, Norwich, claims that the council has no equivalent policy towards men in traditionally female jobs such as clerical work. The tribunal was told that on one occasion Mr Hopkin's 18-year-old son had applied for an advertised post to be trained as a bricklayer or builder. "But my son was told that he could not have a form because he was male," Mr Hopkins said.

Mrs Brenda Hones, a senior personnel officer for the council, said that the council did want to recruit more women. "We are trying to get a gender balance at all levels," she said. "At Chief Officer level, for instance, there are a lot more men than women." Asked by Mr Hopkins if there were similar plans to correct the imbalance in areas where more women were employed, Mrs Hones replied: "No."

Mr Hopkins said that after 18 months in a temporary post as a car-park assistant he applied for it to be made permanent. He did not get the job and was later removed from the council's temporary employment register.

Mrs Hones said that Mr Hopkins's contract had not been extended because the council had difficulty getting him to return clothing and accounts books after his contract had ended. The tribunal continues.

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School tests results

One third of pupils is backward in core subjects at 14

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

ONE in three 14-year-olds has fallen behind in English, mathematics and science, according to government test results published yesterday. One in four pupils aged seven has not mastered the basics.

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, said the findings were worrying evidence of widespread failure in state schools. He singled out the primary sector and said teachers must work harder to raise expectations to ensure children were equipped with the literacy and numeracy skills needed later.

The Education Department statistics show girls consistently outperforming boys. The gap was widest in English — particularly at 14 — with girls well ahead at mathematics, and fractionally in front in science. The figures are based on national curriculum tests taken last summer by about 300,000 seven-year-olds and 130,000 14-year-olds in schools which defied the boycott by the National Union of Teachers.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, said the results provided clear national benchmarks against which schools and parents could measure standards. However, Mrs Shephard, who is anxious to rebuild the Government's relations with teachers, refused to offer any analysis or interpretation of the results.

Mr Blunkett said the figures highlighted the importance of building foundations for learning in primary schools. "It is crucial that all those in education work together to create a culture of achievement and lift standards."

More than three quarters of seven-year-olds achieved the standard expected of a typical pupil in mathematics, English and science. Some 19 per cent were well ahead. Teachers, who also assessed classwork, judged their pupils' progress to be slightly faster when compared with test results.

The tests found that a fifth of seven-year-olds fell short of the expected standard in reading and arithmetic. Pupils had to read aloud passages from set books and to calculate sums such as seven minus three, or 12 plus 6.

Marks were lower in spelling and writing tests, with just over a quarter struggling with words such as 'teacher', 'night', 'pretend' 'going' and 'mother'. At 14, fewer than two-thirds of pupils reached the expected level. Some 42 per cent fell short in English, 40 per cent in mathematics and 36 per cent in science.

Almost three quarters of girls reached the expected standard in English, compared with just over half of boys. Some 14 per cent of pupils performed exceptionally well, with 2 per cent already at the standard required for a GCSE grade C, and a few surpassing that.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that roughly the same proportion of pupils did better than was "typical" in English and mathematics as did worse. He said: "If you set a test to gauge average performance, the laws of mathematics dictate that you will get a certain proportion above and a certain proportion below. It is ridiculous to talk of children as young as seven, or more likely six and a half, as 'failing' to learn the basics. They are still learning."

The increase in the number of pupils aged seven to 14 falling behind in their studies will add weight to criticisms of primary schools by government inspectors. Chris Woodhead, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, will challenge the dominance of progressive teaching methods in primaries in a speech on Thursday.

Opt-out schools raise fears over charitable status

By Ben Preston

GRANT-maintained schools are demanding assurances about the Labour Party's threat to restrict charitable status. Head teachers will raise the issue at meetings next month with David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary.

There is concern that opt-out schools might be affected by Labour's decision to consider scrapping the charitable status of private schools in an attempt to end financial privilege. The question threatens to strain already difficult relations between the existing 1,000 grant-maintained schools and Labour, which wants to bring them back under some form of local authority control.

Labour is reviewing the position of more than 1,230 private schools registered as charities, a status worth at least £42.5 million in tax-breaks and savings on business rates. The move, however, has caused uncertainty for grant-maintained schools who receive special status by law when they leave council control. Most council schools do not enjoy charitable status.

John McIntosh, headmaster of the London Oratory School, the grant-maintained school where Tony Blair has decided to send his son, said he was anxious and confused by Labour's plans. He said: "If we have money taken away, it is inevitable that pupils will miss out." Mr McIntosh said that charitable status allowed grant-maintained schools to claim back the tax from covenanted donations to appeals for projects such as new buildings. He said that charitable status was worth more than £10,000 to London Oratory last year.

Blunkett: review covers independent schools

Sir Bob Balchin, of the Grant-Maintained Schools Foundation, said "Grant-maintained schools value their charitable status enormously. Head teachers are very concerned about the possible threat to their position in the light of Labour's attitude to the independent sector."

A spokesman for Mr Blunkett said the party's review of charitable status was limited to independent schools and did not cover state schools. He said any concerns among grant-maintained schools could be raised at the scheduled meetings.

JACK DABAGHIAN

At the Paris collections, the Italian designer Valentino dressed model-turned-actress Elle MacPherson, left, in a black and white slinky polka dot dress, with white lace bustier. Jean-Louis Scherrer presented a Victorian military Eton-style jacket with high-collar shirt and white cap

Police seek truants to trace killer

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

POLICE believe that pupils playing truant at the Cardiff school attended by Claire Hood, the murdered 15-year-old, may have clues about her last hours and yesterday announced an amnesty to persuade them to come forward.

They also want to contact two men with an airgun seen by a man walking his dog in woods where she died. They are regarded as possible witnesses but police are puzzled they have not come forward.

Police were at Rumney High School yesterday seeking to identify pupils who played truant on the day she disappeared. They also visited a neighbouring school. Claire was sexually assaulted and left in undergrowth near a path through woods on the St Mellons estate.

Detective Superintendent Colin Jones said yesterday that pupils had nothing to fear by coming forward. "If any of her friends know where Claire was going they could help us catch the killer," he said.

Stable lad who shot fiancée had been jailed for attacks on ex-wife

By Paul Wilkinson

A JILTED stable lad was found guilty yesterday of shooting and kidnapping a woman jockey after she ended their engagement. Barry Pearson, 33, shot Madeleine Smith, his former fiancée, in the leg before keeping her hostage on a 140-mile drive to the flat they once shared.

He did not telephone for help for Miss Smith until five hours after the shooting and she was so seriously injured that she still needs plastic surgery.

After the jury at Teesside Crown Court returned its verdict it emerged that Pearson had already served a jail sentence for a similar incident involving his former wife eight years ago. He was jailed at Stafford Crown Court for three years for threatening to kill his wife with a carving knife and wrecking their home. She had to barricade herself and her three children aged one to four, in a bedroom at her home in Cannock, Staffordshire, while her ex-husband kept police at bay for three hours with a knife.

The court had heard that he was jealously in love with his former wife. He had admitted threatening to kill her, assaulting her sister and a police inspector. He also admitted two attacks on his wife's home, tearing her clothes, smashing 40 window panes and hurling tiles from the roof causing £5,000 damage.

He was convicted yesterday of kidnapping Miss Smith, unlawful wounding and of having a firearm with intent to cause grievous bodily harm on June 12 last year. He had already admitted unlawful possession of the shotgun. He was remanded for psychiatric reports.

Pearson, from Grantham, Lincolnshire, threatened to kill Miss Smith after she ended their four-year relationship in November 1993. He tried to run her down in his car and held a knife at her throat before arranging a farewell meeting to return her belongings. Instead he produced a shotgun and fired it as she tried to get into her car at East Witton near Ripon, North Yorkshire. Pearson claimed he had intended to kill himself in front of Miss Smith and that it had gone off accidentally.

Miss Smith said after the trial: "My injuries are horrendous. My leg looks like an apple when someone has taken a bite."

John Birt, left, will lobby Jacques Santer to help to protect the work of public-service broadcasters

BBC appeals to Santer for help

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

JOHN BIRT is to defend the BBC's role at a meeting with the President of the European Commission in the run-up to next month's G7 conference on information superhighways.

The corporation's director-general wants to ensure that national and international regulators take account of the importance of public-service broadcasters when framing rules for multi-media regulation. The BBC also wants to improve the free circulation of broadcast material between nations and is seeking financial support from the EC to improve subtitling and distribution systems.

Mr Birt is keen to ensure that the BBC has a say in all aspects of the EC's audio-visual policy, particularly digital broadcasting and viewer subscriber systems. His meetings in Brussels with Jacques Santer, the new President, Sir Léon Brittan, the Commissioner for External Relations, and Marcellino Orega, the new Audio-Visual Commissioner, will follow the launch on Thursday of two pan-European BBC satellite channels. The channels, one for news and the other for entertainment, will not be available in Britain and will be funded by advertising and subscription revenue.

EC policy on the audio-visual sector is of vital importance to the BBC, which is by far the biggest producer of programmes in Europe and the biggest exporter of television shows to America. Mr Birt will be accompanied in Brussels by senior executives including Bob Phillis, the deputy director-general, Will Wyatt, managing director of BBC network television, and Liz Forgan, managing director of BBC radio.

Ministers from the seven industrial nations that make up the G7 group will attend the superhighways conference on February 24.

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Military commanders use computers to train for front line without getting cold, wet or frightened

Army beats retreat over armoured exercises

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE Army is turning to "virtual reality" computer programmes to train its commanders for battle because of a shortage of land suitable for full-scale exercises.

In five years, it will have a special combined arms tactical trainer that will allow an officer to experience the realities of battle "without getting wet, cold or frightened", according to MoD sources. The computers are helping to fill the gap created at the end of the Cold War when countries such as Germany banned large-scale exercises.

British troop numbers there have fallen from 55,000 in 1989 to 23,000. The last divisional exercise involving more than 25,000 soldiers was held more than five years ago and Army chiefs accept that that size of exercise will probably never happen again.

Since the German ban the British Army has been unable to find any comparable land to mount armoured exercises of its own. Financial and environmental pressures were in danger of depriving many senior officers of the experience of commanding a big formation of tanks and guns.

The simulators will have a special terrain database, enabling a commander to look into a vast world generated by computer and lead his men and tanks into battle in any environment from deserts to snow-covered plains. The computers cost about £500,000, compared with £25 million a week for a divisional-size exercise.

The largest armoured formation still able to exercise is a battle group — about 1,000 soldiers, 30 tanks, 32 Warrior armoured infantry fighting vehicles and artillery support. Britain is the only country in Europe still training at battle group level.

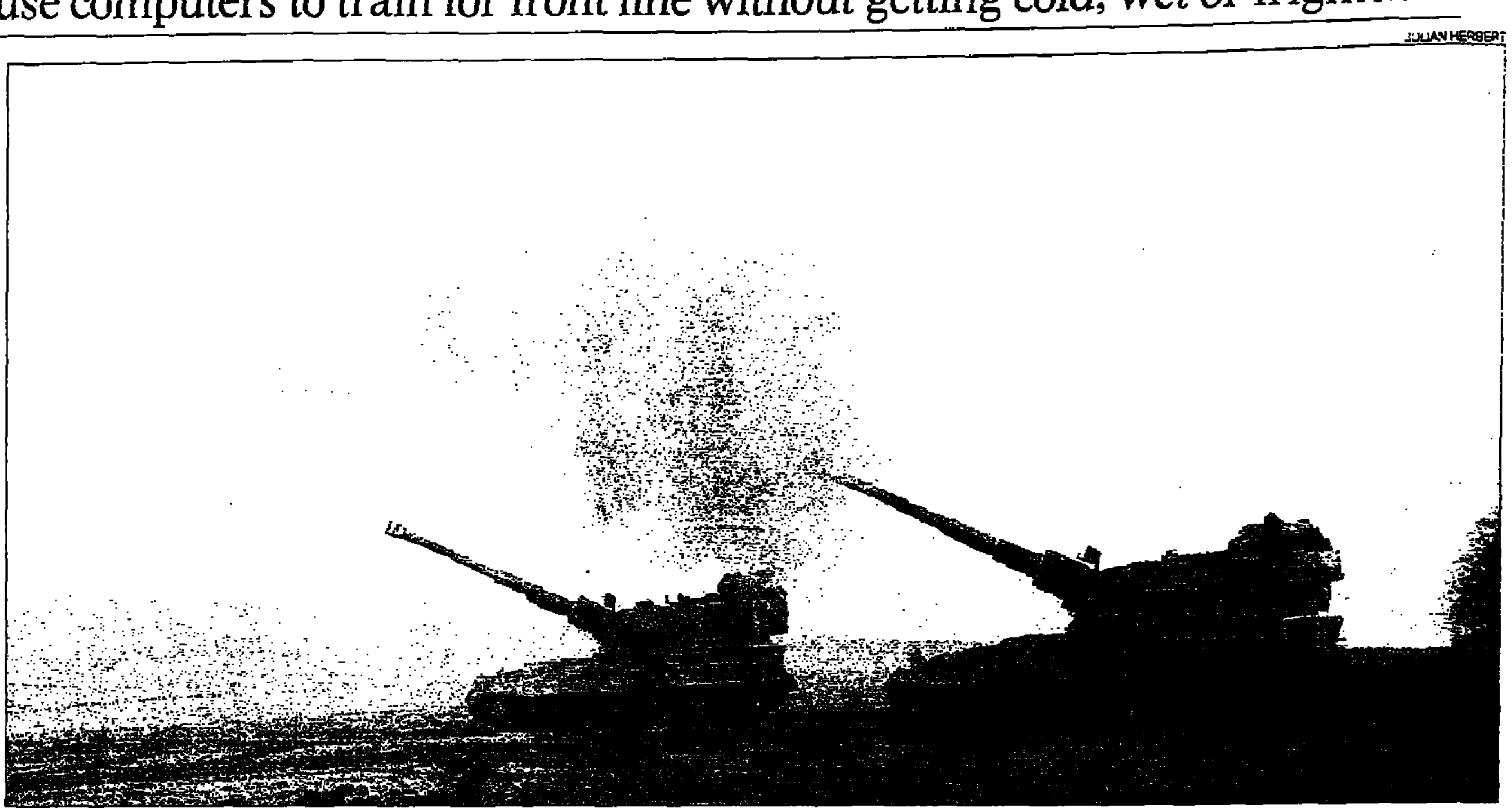
However, such exercises can be run only on Salisbury Plain and at the Suffield training area in Canada. At times, American training grounds in southern Germany and at Fort Lewis in America have also been used by British troops. With the number of tanks and heavy guns based in Britain doubling from 500 in 1992 to 1,000 next year, the Army is looking for more sites abroad, mainly in central and eastern Europe.

A memorandum of understanding has been signed with Morocco for the use of land for training. However, the agreement covers only company-size exercises of about 200 soldiers.

One Army officer said it was vital to get the balance right between simulated computer-generated exercises and the real thing. "The Americans, who are five years ahead of us in the use of simulators, have discovered that if commanders become too dependent on computer-generated battlefield scenarios, they lose their intuitive skills. They still need to give orders when they are cold, tired and frightened."

But computers can also reveal instantly what goes wrong in an exercise. As one army officer put it, in a real field exercise an armoured vehicle turning right instead of left and blocking a bridge could hold up a whole exercise for hours. "You don't get that with a simulator," he said.

Advanced technology has also enabled soldiers, such as Challenger tank gunners, to learn the basic skills in a simulator before being let loose on the ranges with live ammunition that costs £1,000 a round.


JULIAN HERBERT

A new self-propelled gun is tested on Salisbury Plain. The Army hopes to sign agreements with countries in central and eastern Europe to use their training areas

Legacy of winter manoeuvres alarms ecologists

By Michael Hornsby, Countryside Correspondent

PLANS to increase military exercises on Salisbury Plain and to build facilities for heavy guns on training grounds in Northumberland are alarming archaeologists and ecologists.

The Ministry of Defence, with some 600,000 acres of land at its disposal, is the country's biggest landowner after the Forestry Commission. Its estate includes 20 per cent of Northumberland National Park, 15 per cent of Dartmoor National Park and more than 200,000 sites classified as being of "special scientific interest".

Environmentalists freely acknowledge that one by-product of the Army's presence has been the preservation of countryside that might otherwise have been built over, ploughed up or covered with commercial conifer plantations. Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, the Army's main training ground since 1897, contains 41 per cent of Britain's remaining unimproved chalk grassland, a habitat that has contracted greatly over the past 50 years as more land has been used to grow crops.

The plain is home to 10 per cent of the 160 pairs of stone curlews still breeding in Britain and is thought to support up to 20 per cent of the 200 pairs of quails that nest here. Rare plants and invertebrates include the tuberous thistle and the Duke of Burgundy butterfly. Some 7,000 acres of land forming a *cordon sanitaire* round Porton Down, have, paradoxically, become a sanctuary for butterflies and rare orchids while scientists in the laboratories there test the effects of chemical and biological weapons on mice and monkeys.

Russell Wright, conservation officer for English Nature in Wiltshire, said: "Chalk grassland is best maintained by sheep or cattle grazing. Tracked vehicles perform a similar function, keeping the sward open and preventing scrub encroachment. The ruts and bare ground, and shell holes left by gunnery practice, support communities of wild flowers that would be crowded out elsewhere."

This mutually beneficial relationship is now shifting. Concern arose after manoeuvres on Salisbury Plain in the exceptionally wet winter of 1993-94, which involved 3,500 soldiers and 1,000 armoured vehicles. Tanks cut tracks up to 100 yards wide into the subsoil and ran over many archaeological sites.

A survey by English Heritage found damage, much of it irreparable, to a third of a random sample of 30 sites, among them Neolithic burial mounds and the remains of Roman and Saxon settlements and field systems. The Army is now laying stone-surfaced roads and agreed not to use tracked vehicles this winter between November and March.

Roy Canham, county archaeologist for Wiltshire, said: "The roads will help to restrict the damage but the Army will still want freedom of manoeuvre, and I doubt if they will be willing to limit their wet-weather training every winter."

A controversial environmental study published by the Army last November suggested that Salisbury Plain could sustain a doubling of tracked mileage. But English Nature, the Government's chief adviser on conservation, says there is no scientific basis for such a claim and believes any increase could cause unacceptable damage.

Next month, the Ministry of Defence will submit plans to train five regiments of the 19th Mechanised Brigade in live firing of self-propelled 42-ton AS-90 howitzers and multiple rocket launchers on the Otterburn Training Area, about 80 square miles of heather moorland and wild hill country in Northumberland National Park.

As part of the scheme, the Army, which has owned the land since 1911, plans to build 22 gun stands, a vehicle maintenance area and housing for 750 men, and to turn 30 miles of moorland track into tarmac-surfaced roads.

MoD stops night tests of new gun

Robert Key, left, Conservative MP for Salisbury, and other local MPs have successfully interceded between people living near Salisbury Plain, whose sleep has been disturbed by explosions, and the Ministry of Defence. Reverberations from test firings of the Army's new AS90 artillery gun have been heard 30 miles away, toppling furniture. But the Army yesterday agreed to limit tests of the £1 million 155mm ordnance to 30-minute daylight trials after Mr Key and fellow local MPs, Michael Ancram, Devizes, and David Faber, Westbury, put their constituents' case to the MoD.

DJ beaten to death in 'cash card robbery'

A MAN may have been beaten to death for his cash card as he tried to withdraw money from a hole-in-the-wall machine.

Adam Brown, 23, a disc jockey, was found in a bookshop doorway a few yards from an automated teller machine at a branch of the TSB in Newcastle upon Tyne. He had massive brain damage. He died when doctors turned off life-support systems in hospital last Friday.

Detective Superintendent John Renwick said yesterday that Mr Brown's bank card was inserted at 2.44am on Thursday, less than two hours before his body was found. "Either Mr Brown put the card in and was attacked before he could tap in his code, or someone else tried to put the card in without knowing the correct numbers."

He said that Mr Brown, who was single, had been to nightclubs alone and was seen on videotape recordings made by surveillance cameras. His wallet was missing and there was no evidence of a weapon having been used.

Dentist accused of killing pensioner

AN ELDERLY woman died at the dentist after he gave her four times the recommended dose of anaesthetic, it was alleged yesterday.

Marie Everett went to have 28 teeth extracted but collapsed from heart failure, said Nigel Baker, QC, for the prosecution. There was "the plainest evidence" of gross negligence, he told Stafford Crown Court. Stephen Stuart, 46, of Woore, near Market Drayton, Shropshire, denies manslaughter.

Mr Baker said: "He failed to consider her age, her anxiety and her angina and on top of that simply gave her far more anaesthetic than he should have done."

Mrs Everett, 68, of Market Drayton, had had two teeth extracted earlier and in January 1993 went to have the remaining 28 teeth removed. The local anaesthetic was injected over 20 minutes. "She started to twitch which turned into convulsions. She was in a bad way," Mr Baker said.

"Ambulancemen tried electric shock treatment and tried to stimulate her heart three times but there was no positive effect." The trial continues.

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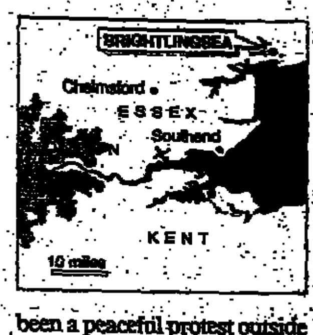
'I got my shotgun and fired over their heads. I was so nervous I tried to load a pack of Polos'

Dock owner to quit after militant mob attacks his home

By Michael Horsnell



THE wharf owner at the centre of demonstrations against live animal exports said last night he would sell or lease the business after a *shooting* incident at his home on Saturday.

Ernest Oliver, 73, was speaking under police guard after he fired warning shots over the heads of *militant* demonstrators who tried to tear down the gates of his country home and hurled lumps of concrete at the house. Mr Oliver said he would dispose of the Brightlingsea Dock *and* Wharfage Company because he was "shocked and horrified" at the attack on his house in Tendring, Essex.

"About a hundred of them turned up, *screaming* and shouting outside the house. They terrified my wife and me, smashed the house and broke down two security gates. I got my shotgun and fired *over* their heads.

"I was so nervous I tried to load a pack of Polos instead of a shell. The next day the local council had the cheek to tell a public meetings there had been a peaceful protest outside the house."

Mr Oliver, whose six-month contract with Richard Otley, a *Huntingdon farmer, to export* sheep for slaughter to the Continent prompted the Brightlingsea protest, said he was fed up with the pressure he had endured, which he described as a vendetta.

The town council and Brightlingsea Against Live Exports, the local protest group, denied that their protests had been anything but peaceful, *but welcomed the news that* Mr Oliver would end his 21-year ownership of the port. Ric Morgan, the town *mayor*, condemned the militant protest, but added: "*This is the* beginning of the end and the end may be sooner than one thinks. The pressure must have been intolerable for Mr *Oliver, as it has been for the* residents of Brightlingsea. I am very pleased he has taken the right course though I am unhappy about what happened at his home."

It is understood that a *consortium involving* the county council and district council could be interested in buying or leasing the dock.

After the disturbance at Mr Oliver's home, police placed him under protection in case the *militants*, believed to be from Yorkshire and Merseyside, made a second attempt to terrorise him.

They are linking the attack on Mr Oliver's house to an incident earlier in the day in which the windows of the Fox and Hounds pub at Tillingham, near Burnham-on-Crouch, were smashed. The pub is used by the Essex *Farmers Union Hunt.*

Assistant Chief Constable Geoffrey Markham, who is supervising the policing of the protests, said: "I am concerned *that militant outsiders are* trying to infiltrate the protest at Brightlingsea. The group that went to Tillingham came from outside, dedicated to an *unlawful act*. They were club-wielding, balaclava-clad hooligans."

As the protest entered its second week yesterday, 15 *people were arrested* when police escorted 2,000 sheep to the docks. It took two hours to ferry the animals to the jetty after 800 protesters were allowed to march *at* the head of the convoy.

The latest consignment of sheep was loaded on a Danish transporter bound for slaughter in Belgium. Veterinary officers from the Agriculture Ministry inspected the cargo after reports that a number of animals had died in transport.

Brightlingsea demonstrators criticised half a *dozen outsiders who staged a sit-down in front of the convoy*, urging them to follow an agreement with police that they would march peacefully to the docks. Maria Wilby, a protest organiser, said: "People here are worried that protesters are trying to join the band wagon and turn a well-organised demonstration into a violent one. We do not want *that. The local people dissociate ourselves from them.*"

Waldegrave and protesters agree

By Michael Hornsby and Wolfgang Münchau

BRITAIN launched a campaign yesterday to have the controversial "crate" method of rearing calves for veal abolished throughout Europe.

At a meeting with fellow European Union ministers in Brussels, William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, also called for a limit to be imposed on the length of journeys for animals. Mr Waldegrave *said he was hope*ful of persuading the other *ministers to bring forward a* review of current EU legislation that permits the use of veal crates, which have been banned in Britain since 1990.

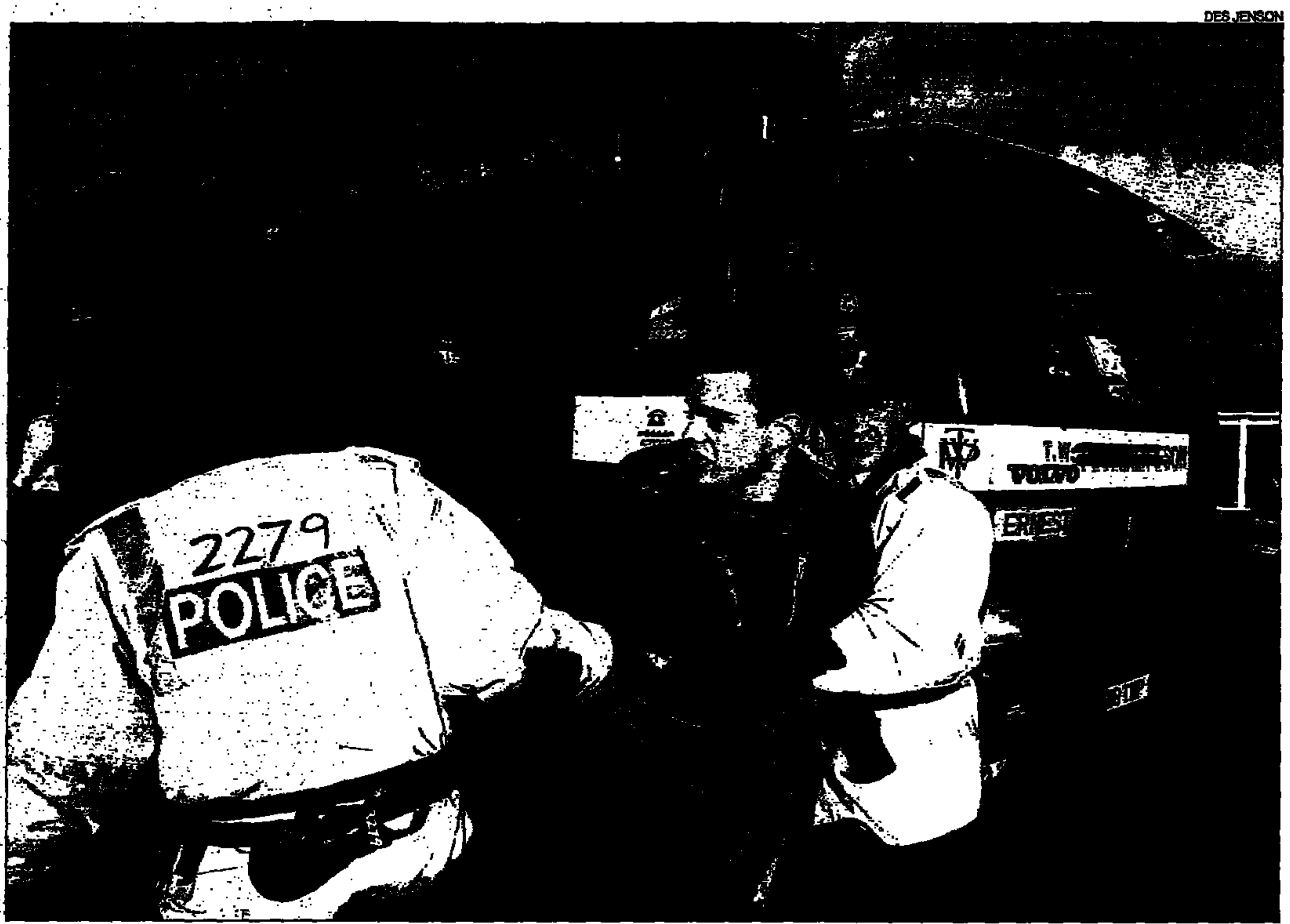
Animal rights activists dressed in the white overalls of abattoir workers cheered Mr Waldegrave as he arrived for the meeting, a novel experi*ence for the minister*. He chatted with the Belgian and Dutch demonstrators and said he sympathised with their views. Mr Waldegrave told them: "We could do with more *of our own people coming over* here and making their protests where it is necessary."

Current EU legislation on veal crates is not due for *revision* until October 1997, with the aim of introducing more humane treatment of calves only by 2004. Mr Waldegrave wants the whole *process speeded.*

"We should not think we are *alone in this concern*," he said. "The Belgians, for example, banned veal crates some time ago. The Irish have told me they will support me and I suspect the Scandinavian *member states will too.*"

In fact, Belgium has not banned veal crates but is sympathetic to the British position. Germany banned the crates two years ago and they *are not used in either Sweden* or Denmark.

DES JENSON



Fifteen people were arrested yesterday after police allowed protesters to march in front of lorries carrying sheep to Brightlingsea

Super-trailer helps cattle keep their cool

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

BRITISH engineers are developing an animal-friendly cattle transporter to improve *the welfare of exported* cows, sheep and chickens.

The biggest threats to the welfare of a transported animal and its meat are heat and *moisture* levels inside the trailer, which can vary alarmingly. For cattle, noise, vibration and journey time are also critical to whether the *animals suffer.*

The transporter is being *developed* by researchers at the Silsoe Research Centre in Bedfordshire and the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh. Sensors that judge tempera*ture and humidity in the* trailers will send signals to the driver if conditions deteriorate dangerously. The driver could then switch on fans and coolers to reduce the temperature.

Computer-controlled vents on the side of the trailer are also being tested to boost air flows. Researchers are considering computerising the system, *allowing the environ*ment to be fine-tuned for *every stage* of the journey. The transporter, which could lead to a European standard *for farm animal transport*, is designed to control the trailer's environment so that each animal has the best conditions during its national or continental *journey.*

The scientists are using heart, brain and other body monitors on farm animals to pinpoint the exact conditions that *cause stress and distress* during a journey.

Peter Kettlewell, an engineer at Silsoe, said it was possible that the system could be used to enforce standards of animal welfare. "Everyone *knows what a tachograph* does. There is no reason why you should not have a thermograph," Mr Kettlewell said. Such a system could be linked by radio *or* satellite to government animal welfare *inspectors across Europe and* provide up-to-the-minute information on the conditions of transported animals.

The new transporter will reduce animals' stress

Dr Malcolm Mitchell of the Roslin Institute said yesterday that satellite links, *able to see how far* a truck has travelled, would also ensure that drivers did not abuse animals by driving them too far. The research, *which has so far has focused* on boosting conditions for the 650 million broiler chickens transported in Britain annually, is being funded by *the Ministry of* Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Scientists believe they have identified the temperature levels inside trailers that put broil*ers at risk.*

Mr Kettlewell said they had taken delivery of a test transporter to develop a similiar trailer for cattle and expected that one could be designed in four years. Dr *Mitchell said*: "We are developing something that will maximise the welfare of transported animals and not stop the trade. It is research *which should form the basis* of national and European legislation."

Leading article, page 19

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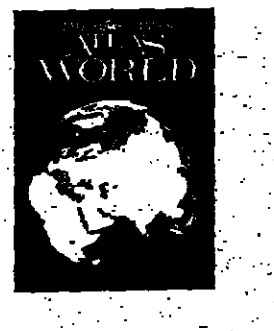

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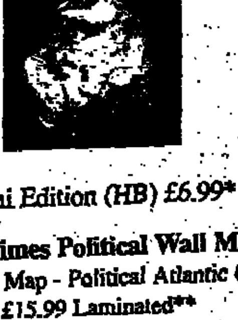

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MARC HILL

Benjamin with his parents Andrea and Steve Jones *who found the needle while changing his nappy*

Baby had needle in body for two weeks

By Jeremy Laurance

A HOSPITAL is investigating *how a hypodermic* needle was left inside a new-born baby for two weeks. Andrea Jones pulled the needle from the back of her three-week-old son *Benjamin as she changed his* nappy at home last week. The needle, said to be 1½ in long, is believed to be of the type used for taking blood samples from babies.

"I just stood there in total disbelief," Mrs Jones said. She and her *husband* Steve have demanded an independent inquiry after it was alleged the *needle* had earlier shown up on an X-ray.

Benjamin was born on Christmas Day at Treliske Hospital, Truro, six weeks *prematurely*. A disciplinary panel is considering claims that a nurse carried out an appendix operation at the hospital.

Benjamin was admitted to the special baby unit. When *he* was 10 *days old* blood, lumbar puncture and swab tests were done because he was unsettled and was not his usual self, Mrs Jones said.

Treliske Hospital said last night that it had agreed to hold an independent investigation into the incident, to be led by child health experts. The hospital said it was taking advice on the form of the inquiry from the South and West Regional Health Authority.

Body & Mind, page 17

Son trapped by hair

A BABY almost *choked to* death when he became entangled in his sleeping mother's long hair (Marianne Curphey writes). Hannah Baker, 25, of Bristol, *had fallen asleep* with her nine-month-old son Jack clinging to her neck after bringing him into bed to stop him crying. She woke an hour later to find her hair around his neck, starving *him of air*. Ms Baker's fiancé Darren Simmons, 26, hacked off *her* hair with scissors, freeing the infant.

Dr Mark Byron, who helped *to revive Jack, said parents* should be aware of the risk. He is writing to medical journals, and said mothers with long hair should tie it back *if they intend to sleep* with their baby in bed.

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Former Dan-Air staff seek nearly £8 million for breach of contract after industrial tribunal victory

Sacked pilots take battle with BA to High Court

By Harvey Elliott, air correspondent

NEARLY 200 former Dan-Air pilots are to ask the High Court to make British Airways pay £7.8 million compensation. The pilots claim that when Dan-Air was taken over their redundancy money averaged just £4,000 while cabin crew received more than £20,000 and flight engineers in excess of £30,000.

They won the first round of their battle against BA when an industrial tribunal in Croydon, south London, last week ruled that they had been wrongly dismissed. The tribunal will announce the reasons for its decision this week.

A further hearing, within about six weeks, will determine whether the pilots should receive up to £10,000 compensation each or be reinstated. But the Dan-Air Pilots Action Group has decided also to seek damages for breach of contract at the High Court.

The chairman of the group, Delphine Gray-Fisk, gave up her new job to concentrate on the case and raised more than £300,000 from 180 pilots who decided to fight the action. She said: "When Dan-Air was taken over 308 pilots were dismissed immediately. Our union, Balpa, told us we did not have any kind of case but so many pilots took legal advice that suggested we did that I decided to pull the whole operation together and to take on BA."

BA took over Dan-Air two years ago. Captain Gray-Fisk, who first flew in a glider at the age of 11 and gained her commercial licence at 18, had been with the Gatwick-based company for 21 years and flew Boeing 727s. She said "almost all" of the pilots had found work since being laid off but claimed that few had been able to obtain work similar to that they enjoyed with Dan-Air.

"I was fortunate in finding an immediate command. I also did not have a family. But many did and had to go to Malaysia or other foreign countries to get a job, splitting from their families."

BA said: "We are disappointed at the tribunal's decision but we look forward to reading the full judgment. We believe we acted fairly and sympathetically at the time Dan-Air was acquired. The fact is that had BA not acquired Dan-Air some 2,000 jobs would have been lost and many of Gatwick's key short-haul services would have been lost as well."

CHRIS HARRIS

Captain Delphine Gray-Fisk and other members of the action group celebrating their tribunal victory yesterday at Croydon aerodrome

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♥Q J 10 4 3
♦K 7 3
♣K 9

♠A J 10 3 2
♥8 6
♦J 8 6
♣8 7 3

♠6 5
♥K 9 5 2
♦10 9 5 2
♣A Q J

♠K 9 7
♥A 7
♦A Q 4
♣10 6 5 4 2

W	N	E	S
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Dble	All pass

Contract: 3NT doubled, by South. Opening lead: ♠J

By Robert Sheehan
Bridge Correspondent

One of the high spots of the bridge year is the Macallan International Pairs, being played this week. On the above deal from the 1994 event, I was West. Declarer won the king of spades and played hearts. My partner won the third round and continued with a spade. I could see that if I ducked declarer would have nine tricks (he had to have one minor-suit ace), so I won and had to play the minor that would enable us to take three quick tricks.

Partner needed either the ace, queen, jack of clubs or the ace, queen, ten of diamonds. I switched to the jack of diamonds and declarer claimed. I should have taken notice of my partner's heart play — two then five, before taking the king of hearts. With the A Q 10 of diamonds he would have played five then two of hearts, to indicate a switch to the higher-ranking suit.

At another table, the Brazilian Gabriel Chagas used a straightforward method to help his partner. The auction had been more revealing — Chagas knew that South had only three diamonds. After the spade lead the declarer played hearts; when Chagas won the king he could therefore see that the declarer had only eight tricks — one spade, four hearts and at most three diamonds. So he switched to the nine of diamonds, an excellent play — it stressed that he had no interest in that suit. It should have alerted his partner to hop up with the ace of spades and switch to a club but unfortunately his partner allowed declarer to slip a spade past him. Perhaps that is why Chagas is playing with a new partner, the Argentinian Lombardy, this year.

The Macallan Pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1, tommorow, Thursday and Friday. For details contact the hotel (0171-387 1200).

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

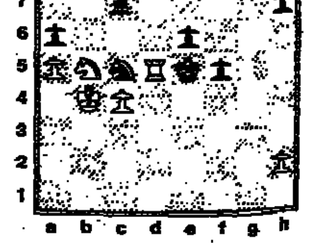
Short setback

Nigel Short of Britain suffered his first reverse in the semi-final of the knockout tournament at Wijk aan Zee, Holland, when he lost with the white pieces to the Russian grandmaster Alexei Dreev.

White: Nigel Short
Black: Alexei Dreev
French Defence

1	e4	e6
2	d4	d5
3	Nc3	Be7
4	Bd3	dxe4
5	Nxe4	Nf6
6	Nf3	Nbd7
7	c3	c5
8	Nxc5	Bxc5
9	dxc5	Nxc5
10	Be2	Qxd1+
11	Kxd1	b6
12	Ne5	Bb7
13	f3	Ke7
14	Kc2	Rhd8
15	Re1	Nd5
16	Bd2	Rac8
17	Rad1	f6
18	Nc4	Be6
19	b3	Ne4
20	f4	g6
21	g4	Nc5
22	Nb2	Bxe2
23	Rxe2	f5
24	gxd5	gxd5
25	c4	Ne4
26	Nd3	b5
27	Ne5	bxc4
28	bxc4	Nxd2
29	Rdxd2	Nxf4
30	Rxd8	Kxd8
31	Rd2+	Ke7
32	Kc3	Bc7
33	a4	Ng6
34	Nf3	Kf6
35	Rd6	Nf8
36	a5	Nd7
37	Nd4	Nc5
38	Kb4	Ke5
39	Nb5	a6
40	Rd5+	White lost on time

Diagram of final position



As in the first game of his world championship challenge to Garry Kasparov in 1993, Short's time ran out. In this case, though, Short's position was already hopeless.

Dortmund drops out

The Professional Chess Association has had a setback in its efforts to stage its 1995 World Championship match when Garry Kasparov will defend his title. Dortmund had been announced as the venue but over the weekend a spokesman for the city announced that it had pulled out of negotiations due to contractual difficulties with the PCA. The PCA is thought to be anxious to hold the match in Germany since German television has promised more than 60 hours of coverage.

Winning Move, page 44

Gypsy life 'threatened by ethnic cleansing'

By Ian Murray, Community Correspondent

BRITAIN'S 90,000 gypsies are being "ethnically cleansed" from our society, with the Government's hostility towards New Age travellers threatening to destroy their ancient culture.

The claim is made in a study of the Criminal Justice Act published today by Bristol University. The Act, which came into force in November, removed councils' obligation to provide sites for caravans. It also gave police, landowners and councils new powers to move people on, a reform intended to stop modern convoys rather than traditional gypsy life. Refusal to move may result in caravans being impounded and children taken into care.

"By making it more and more difficult to live a nomadic life and exerting pressure on gypsies to move into houses, the effect will be to make a centuries old way of life disappear altogether," Dr Derek Hawes, one of the authors, said. "There is a great deal of fear among gypsies, who remember that so many of them died in the Holocaust."

A few gypsies in North Wales have been served eviction notices since the Act came into force, but most councils have so far not used it. Dr Hawes said: "I think it is inevitable that the law will have to change because as legal sites run out there will be increasingly difficult and bloody confrontations."

Peter Mercer, president of the Gypsy Council for Education, Culture, Welfare and Civil Rights, said: "The Act amounts to genocide. It is an attempt to destroy our culture and everything that gypsies do. They are seeking to exterminate us."

Mr. Mercer said that true gypsies were descended from families who migrated from Rajput, India, about 1,000 years ago after being defeated by Muslim armies. They were warriors, armourers, swordsmiths, musicians and traders. Forced from place to place because they preferred to keep their own language, based on Sanskrit, and culture rather than integrate, the gypsies developed a nomadic lifestyle. The 90,000 who now live in Britain include refugee families from Eastern Europe.

Barbara Perez, co-author of the report and former head of the education service for traveller children in Avon, said that years of work to persuade gypsies to send their children to school was being undermined by the Act.

"The effect on the children is likely to be devastating if their families are evicted from sites," she said. "If parents want them to go to school they will have to agree to being ethnically cleansed and abandon the way of life their families have followed for centuries."

The Commission for Racial Equality tried to have sections about travellers deleted from the Act on the ground that they were discriminatory under the Race Relations Act.

☐ *The Gypsy and the State: The ethnic cleansing of British Society*: University of Bristol School for Advanced Urban Studies: £12.95

Dead boy's mother remanded in custody

By Richard Duce

THE mother of Rikki Neave, who was found strangled near his home almost two months ago, was remanded in custody yesterday accused of neglecting and ill-treating her six-year-old son.

Ruth Neave, 26, is also charged with similar allegations against a three-year-old girl, who cannot be named for legal reasons. Magistrates in Peterborough refused an application that Mrs Neave be released on bail pending her next appearance on January 30.

She is charged with wilfully assaulting, ill-treating and neglecting Rikki between January 1 and November 29 last year. She faces similar charges concerning the three-year-old girl and an allegation that she assaulted Detective Constable Heather Thompson on January 19 this year.

Rikki's naked body was found in woodland 500 yards from his home on the Welland estate in Peterborough on November 29 last year. He had been strangled. Detective Superintendent Keith Chamberlain, leading the murder hunt, said yesterday that some lines in the inquiry had been "fully exhausted".

John Hodge, right, taking the part of a detective in his own film, with Ken Scott as an inspector in *Shallow Grave*, which is already breaking box-office records

Dilemma of doctor who scripted a box-office hit

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

THE 30-year-old Glaswegian doctor who wrote the script for *Shallow Grave*, the black comedy thriller, is thinking of returning to medicine despite its success. In a fortnight, the film has broken records for several British cinemas, grossing £553,170.

One critic predicted it would attract a cult following and another said it was unmissable. *Shallow Grave* is released in the United States next month and some people expect it to approach the success of *Four Weddings And A Funeral*.

John Hodge is a doctor who longed to write a script. "Eventually, I got to the point where I thought I have to have a go." Yet, having fulfilled a young scriptwriter's dream he misses medicine. "I don't want to leave it forever. I miss working in a hospital," he said. "I don't miss staying up all night but the human contact. I don't want to write screenplays for the rest of my life. I don't think I've got it in me."

After studying medicine at Edinburgh University from 1982 to 1987, and working in several hospitals, he had reached a cross-roads, needing to decide on specialist training. Over the past three years *Shallow Grave* increasingly encroached on his time as a doctor, and he spent the whole of last year on it. The £20,000 he has so far earned from *Shallow Grave* "has just gone on life", he said.

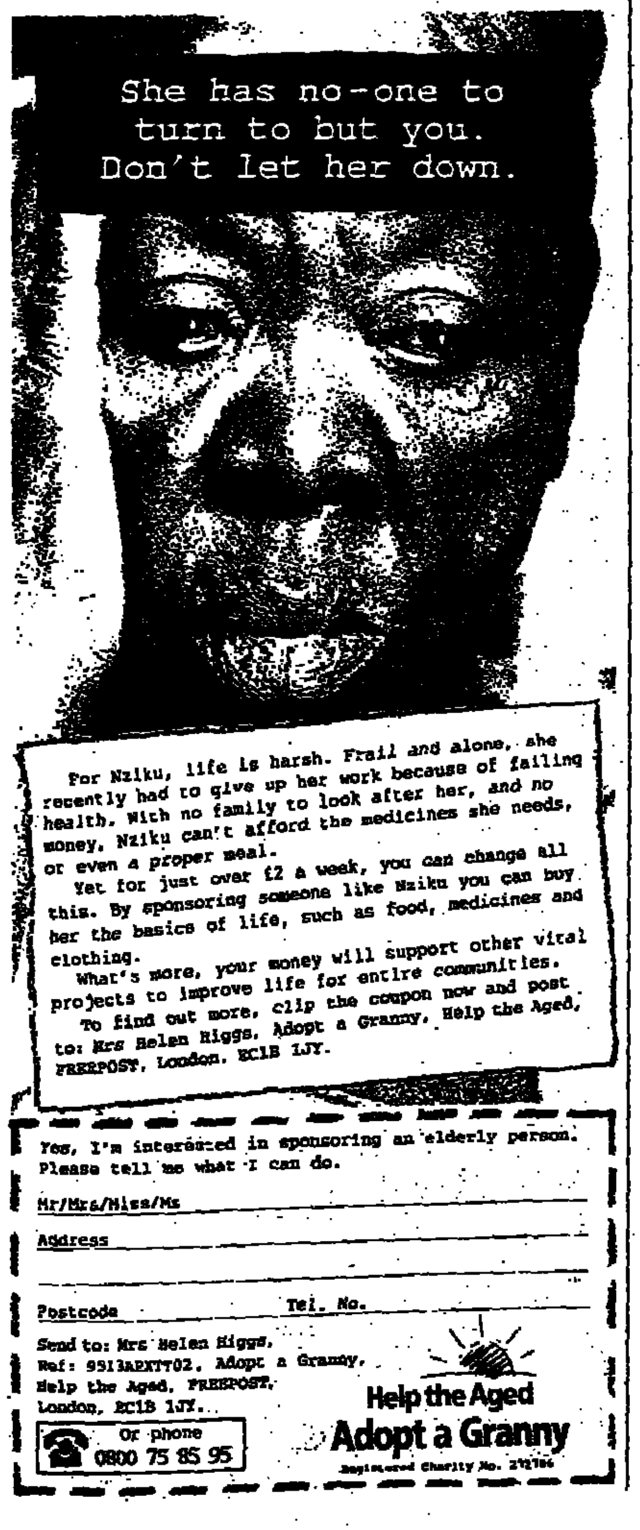
Chekhov: archetypal doctor turned writer

Hodge follows in the footsteps of many doctor-writers: Chekhov, Arthur Conan-Doyle, Somerset Maugham and, more recently, Michael Crichton, author of *Jurassic Park*. "I've really enjoyed it. But the attractions will fade as time goes on," Hodge said.

The characters he created would not understand his doubts. The film tells the story of three flatmates faced with a dilemma when a new flatmate dies leaving a suitcase filled with cash under his bed. They bury their flatmate but as greed takes over their lives descend into jealousy and betrayal. Hodge also makes his acting debut in the film, playing a pedantic detective.

The film got off the ground when Hodge teamed up with Andrew Macdonald, a location manager who wanted to be a film producer. They eventually dared to send the script to the Scottish Film Production Fund. Allan Scott, its chairman, rang them saying it was the best he had read in years. David Aukin, Channel 4's head of drama, was equally responsive. Channel 4 gave them £850,000, and £150,000 came from the Glasgow Film Fund.

The script underwent several big rewrites. "I learnt a lot," Hodge said. "I realised how little you need to write into the dialogue and how few pointers you need to give for the modern audience."



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MPs left on weak ground by the failings of self-regulation

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Nolan inquiry is already challenging some cherished Westminster conventions after just one of its planned six weeks of public hearings. Lord Nolan himself touched some raw nerves last Thursday.

He said that, from the evidence so far, the rules on MPs' connections with lobbyists need to be tightened up, MPs need better guidance on what is and is not acceptable, and the possible introduction of an independent element into Parliament's arrangements for self-regulation should be considered. Most comment has focused on the first two points. But the third is most sensitive, and has already been criticised by some Tory MPs.

Self-regulation is central to Parliament's traditions, going back to the battles of the 16th and 17th centuries when the Commons was defying the encroachments of the Crown. More recently, the Commons has wanted to ensure that it regulates its own affairs via its Committee of Privileges and, for the past 20 years, Select Committee on Members' Interests. When John Major set up the Nolan inquiry last October, several MPs, including Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, chairman of the Members' Interests Committee, referred to the reassurance he said had been offered by the Prime Minister that matters affecting members of the Commons will continue to be considered by its members.

What Mr Major said was, first, that the House's own machinery was the proper way to consider issues affecting individual members of the House and, second, that recommendations affecting members and procedures of the House would be for the House to decide. The second is self-evident since the Commons remains supreme over its own procedures. It alone can change its own rules.

Lord Nolan's comments concern the first part of Mr Major's comments. The consultative document issued by the inquiry last month raised questions of whether any rules should be put into statute; of possible conflict between the elected and sovereign legislature and the unelected judiciary; of whether it might be fairer to MPs if the rules were administered by an impartial body?

The existing Members' Interests Committee has been slow to remedy defects in the registration of interests. It has recommended the minimum changes on disclosure acceptable to almost all MPs, leaving many grey areas for MPs to carry out parliamentary work on behalf of outside interests. The failure of the committee to maintain public confidence over MPs' own rules is one reason why the Nolan inquiry was set up. The committee has been given a three-year brief and it, or a similar standing body, could be asked to supervise how the Commons applies its rules and recommend changes if necessary.

The central question is whether an independent element should be introduced into the machinery for investigating allegations against individual MPs. Should the Privileges and Members' Interests Committees have some outsiders on them? As the Nolan committee's consultative paper suggests, some outside involvement would place Parliament in line with the current trend towards impartial external security. This has provoked lengthy debates over regulation of the police and City markets. Any recommendation along these lines is likely to be fiercely resisted by MPs jealous of their rights.

Many MPs do not realise how weak their ground is at present. It is no good protesting about the sovereignty of Parliament when there is an obvious lack of public confidence in MPs' ability to regulate themselves. This follows a series of allegations not just about obviously outrageous behaviour, such as being paid for tabling questions, but also about the extensive links between many MPs and lobbyists. Similar questions about declining public confidence could, of course, be asked about the press, though the role of elected representatives is very different. If the Nolan inquiry does recommend changes to self-regulation, MPs would be foolish to assume these proposals could easily be brushed aside. *Parliament has a lot to prove.*

PETER RIDDELL

Gas chiefs saved as Eggar rules out feared service cuts

By Jonathan Prynn and Arthur Leathley

THE Government was forced to rescue British Gas from a fresh public relations disaster yesterday after a leaked document indicated that the company planned to abolish free gas safety checks and home visits for the elderly, blind and disabled.

Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister, promised that new legal guarantees would protect the £30 million-a-year special services now provided once the domestic gas market is opened up to new suppliers.

He was responding to a confidential British Gas discussion document passed to Nigel Griffiths, the Shadow Consumer Minister, suggesting deep cuts in the free services provided to a million disadvantaged customers. They included introducing a £25 call-out charge for home visits to the elderly and disabled, the withdrawal of braille leaflets for blind customers, ending special handles and adaptors for the disabled on gas fittings, abolishing free safety checks and reducing home calls to "an absolute minimum".

Mr Griffiths said that a British Gas manager had told home service advisers in Birmingham last week: "We want to tip-toe away from this service so that no one notices."

However, Mr Eggar dismissed the document, insisting that the Gas Bill, due to be published in the next few weeks, would include a clear obligation on all companies to provide services for the disabled and the elderly, although these need not exacity match the services provided at present.

"It might be that there is a different way of tackling the problems ... but there will be a quite clear obligation placed on all suppliers of gas to domestic consumers that they will adhere to a very high standard of care to those three groups, the elderly, the diabled and the blind," he told BBC Radio's *World at One*.

Senior British Gas managers also distanced themselves from the paper. Michael Alexander, managing director of the company's public gas supply division, said that there were "no plans to cut services to the elderly and the disabled at the moment". However, he said that some of the services were being reviewed as they were "not valued by the customer".

Mr Alexander also welcomed Mr Eggar's demand for equal provision of special services from all suppliers. It was the first time that he had received any assurance from the Government that competing suppliers would also be forced to continue the special services, he said.

Labour welcomed Mr Eggar's commitment but said that it was not enough. Mr Griffiths said: "Mr Eggar has not answered the question of people who today are being told that home service visits are not available."

Consumer groups said that the minister's assurances were "far too vague". Barbara Harvey of the Consumers' Association said: "If anything, there should be an upgrading, not a downgrading, in the standards of service provided."

Cedric Brown, the British Gas chief executive who was awarded a 75 per cent pay increase, will face renewed political pressure today when he gives evidence to a Commons inquiry into pay awards for directors of privatised utilities. He is one of three utility chairmen who will be pressed by the Commons Employment Select Committee to explain the reasons for large salary increases since privatisation. Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman of North-West Water, and Dr James Smith, chairman of Eastern Electricity, are expected to say the rises can be justified because of the growing complexity of managing public services.

The Labour Party's campaign to focus attention on executive pay in the utility industries will also intensify today as it points to salary rises of 700 per cent in the electricity generating industry since privatisation.

Eggar: dismissed plans in leaked document

Griffiths: Minister's assurance not enough

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, braving the blustery Manchester weather yesterday. During his visit to the city he made a helicopter flight to see a £160 million rebuilding project in the district of Hulme

Major tries to calm Unionist nerves after meeting with Molyneaux

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

JOHN MAJOR held an hour of private talks with James Molyneaux at Downing Street yesterday as he redoubled his efforts to prevent mounting Unionist anxiety about the search for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

The hastily arranged meeting with the Ulster Unionist leader came only 48 hours after he said in a BBC radio interview that draft proposals from London and Dublin on the future of Northern Ireland were a "recipe for instability and chaos".

Mr Molyneaux's remarks were an attack on the so-called framework document being drawn up by London and Dublin, which is intended to shape talks among the constitutional parties on the government of Northern Ireland. He was voicing widespread Unionist fears that Britain and Ireland are conspiring to introduce joint sovereignty over the Province.

Downing Street officials refused to comment on the meeting, but later in a speech to Northern Ireland council leaders at Downing Street, the Prime Minister sought to reassure Unionists. He denied that the document would contain any "provision for the British and Irish governments to exercise joint authority over the affairs of Northern Ireland". Mr Major added: "That has never been our intention, and that will not be our proposal."

However, Downing Street officials indicated that the document would suggest cross-border bodies with executive powers in areas such as trade, tourism and transport. They emphasised that such bodies would not come into being without the consent of the people of Northern Ireland.

Mr Molyneaux is concerned that the two governments also plan to set up two intergovernmental bodies with reserve powers to disband a Northern Ireland assembly and to supervise the work of the Province's 26 district councils and education and health boards.

Downing Street officials said efforts to agree the framework document were now "on the last lap". A meeting in London on Thursday between Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and Dick Spring, the Irish foreign minister, will attempt to tie up the loose ends.

Mr Major said that the document would indicate one set of ideas for reaching a settlement commanding widespread support. "There will be no question of the two governments imposing a blueprint on the parties."

The proposals would be subject to consultation among the people of Northern Ireland and they would have the final word. "The need for consent remains paramount. Any agreed outcome will be put to the people of Northern Ireland."

Redwood pledges to *protect* Snowdonia

By Arthur Leathley
Political Correspondent

THE Welsh Secretary moved yesterday to defuse the controversy caused by reports that he plans to privatise control of Snowdonia.

John Redwood denied having called on the Countryside Council for Wales to consider plans to take Snowdonia out of public hands or that he had asked the council to run down its areas of special scientific interest. "The Government's policy is to give special protection to beautiful areas like Snowdonia," he said. "I have asked the Countryside Council for Wales to report to me on the best ways of protecting animals, birds and scenic beauty."

It was suggested in reports this weekend that Mr Redwood was putting pressure on the council to make big spending cuts, removing many of its responsibilities for conserving wildlife habitats and maintaining public access to the countryside. A Welsh Office spokeswoman confirmed that a review of some of the council's activities and responsibilities was being carried out but said that no decisions had been taken.

Mr Redwood, who is meeting council members in London today, said that he was disturbed by the reports. "If the story is true that the Countryside Council for Wales is working on privatising Snowdonia and allowing sites of special scientific interest to deteriorate, then they are wasting public money and time in doing so, as I will not accept such advice. I have never asked them to do so."

Ron Davies, the Shadow Welsh Secretary, accused Mr Redwood of conducting a "dangerous and loony experiment" with Wales's natural heritage. Labour immediately launched a campaign to keep Snowdonia and 50 other prime nature reserves under public control.

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Gummer to restrict green-belt building

By Our Political Staff

JOHN GUMMER, the Environment Secretary, is to announce guidelines today, urging planning authorities to be stricter in refusing development in green-belt areas on the edge of towns.

He is also to insist that institutions such as universities and hospitals, with land in the green belt, must stick to the same rules as everyone else in denying development. His thinking is laid out in the revised green-belt planning policy guidance, PPG2, to be published today.

Mr Gummer believes that the green belt is critical not only to the protection of the countryside, but also to reviving town and city centres. He dismisses the idea that scrubland on the edges of towns can be used without damage. He reasons that this would simply result in a bite-by-bite consumption of the green belt, leaving nothing, and is instead urging planning authorities to concentrate on rebuilding town and city centres. He sees his green-belt policy as part of a wider strategy which includes discouraging out-of-town shopping development.

The Environment Secretary thinks that institutional organisations have been allowed too much freedom to use their own green belt or open space land for development without the tough restrictions laid down for other development. He intends this to stop. Mr Gummer believes that good motives do not necessarily prevent harmful development. He has told colleagues that an example of this is the University of London allowing squares to be spoilt.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: Commons questions to social security ministers and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster were followed by the first day of the committee stage of the Finance Bill. In the Lords, the report stage of the Agricultural Tenancies Bill was considered.

TODAY: In the Commons, questions to education ministers and the Prime Minister will be followed by the introduction of a ten-minute rule Bill on Community Care (Rights to Mental Health Services) and a second reading debate on the Disability Discrimination Bill. In the Lords, there will be a second reading debate on the Pensions Bill.

Hurd offers loyal welcome to a sceptical new aide

From George Brock in Brussels and Nicholas Wood

DOUGLAS Hurd stuck loyally to the Government's increasingly sceptical line on Europe yesterday as he announced the appointment of David Davis, his junior minister for European affairs, to an influential European Union committee preparing the 1996 review of the Maastricht treaty.

Mr Davis, an abrasive 46-year-old former grammar school boy, who takes a harder line on Europe than the Foreign Secretary, will be Mr Hurd's "personal representative" on a study group assembled from the 15 EU states and the European Parliament, which will debate the changes due to be negotiated.

Mr Davis jokingly describes himself as a "Eurosceptic for Maastricht" and was the Government whip responsible for browbeating reluctant Tory MPs into voting for the treaty.

Tory Eurosceptics yesterday welcomed the appointment of Mr Davis. One leading Maastricht rebel described his former opponent as a man with a "healthy dose of cynicism" about the Foreign Office and Europe and someone who could be relied upon to defend British interests preparatory to the inter-governmental conference next year.

Davis: post welcomed by Tory Euro-sceptics

Conservative MPs and ministers saw the appointment of the MP for Boothferry, who has degrees from Warwick and Harvard, as a further sign of the more Eurosceptic stance being taken by Mr Major in the light of the internal Conservative feuding over Europe.

Mr Hurd denied hints from Foreign Office sources that he had been unhappy about Mr Davis's appointment and said that he would do an "excellent job". He said that British policy in the 1996 talks would be that outlined by Mr Major in his David Frost interview this month and the Prime Minister's speech in Leiden last autumn. In the Frost interview Mr Major ruled out any significant moves towards European federalism in 1996.

Mr Hurd said: "It's perfectly possible to work out in the next weeks and months a strategy which will be supported by the great majority, not just of our party but by the great majority of public opinion and which will gain allies on the Continent of Europe."

Mr Davis said he would be approaching the job with British interests in mind and would be reflecting the view of Europe the Prime Minister has outlined. "John Major's view is of a decentralised Europe, which is flexible, allowing expansion to the east, with nation states having a strong say, and which is relevant to the citizens of Europe," he told BBC Radio.

Scots MPs gain new rights

THE Government last night gave Scottish MPs new rights to question ministers as part of a programme of reforms *to strengthen* Scotland's role at Westminster.

Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary, announced that he and junior ministers would take part in a new question-and-answer session exclusively with the 72 MPs from Scotland. *The move is part of* measures that follow a review of the work of the Scottish Grand Committee. The committee will also sit more frequently in Scotland.

Mr Lang said: "Changes such as this will increase the accountability of Scottish Office ministers without weakening Scotland's special position at the Parliament of *the Union.*" The first Commons question time outside the chamber will take place on February 8, when the Scottish Grand Committee introduces its own 45-minute question and answer session at Westminster. Scottish MPs have been angered that MPs from elsewhere take up time allotted for Scottish questions in the chamber.

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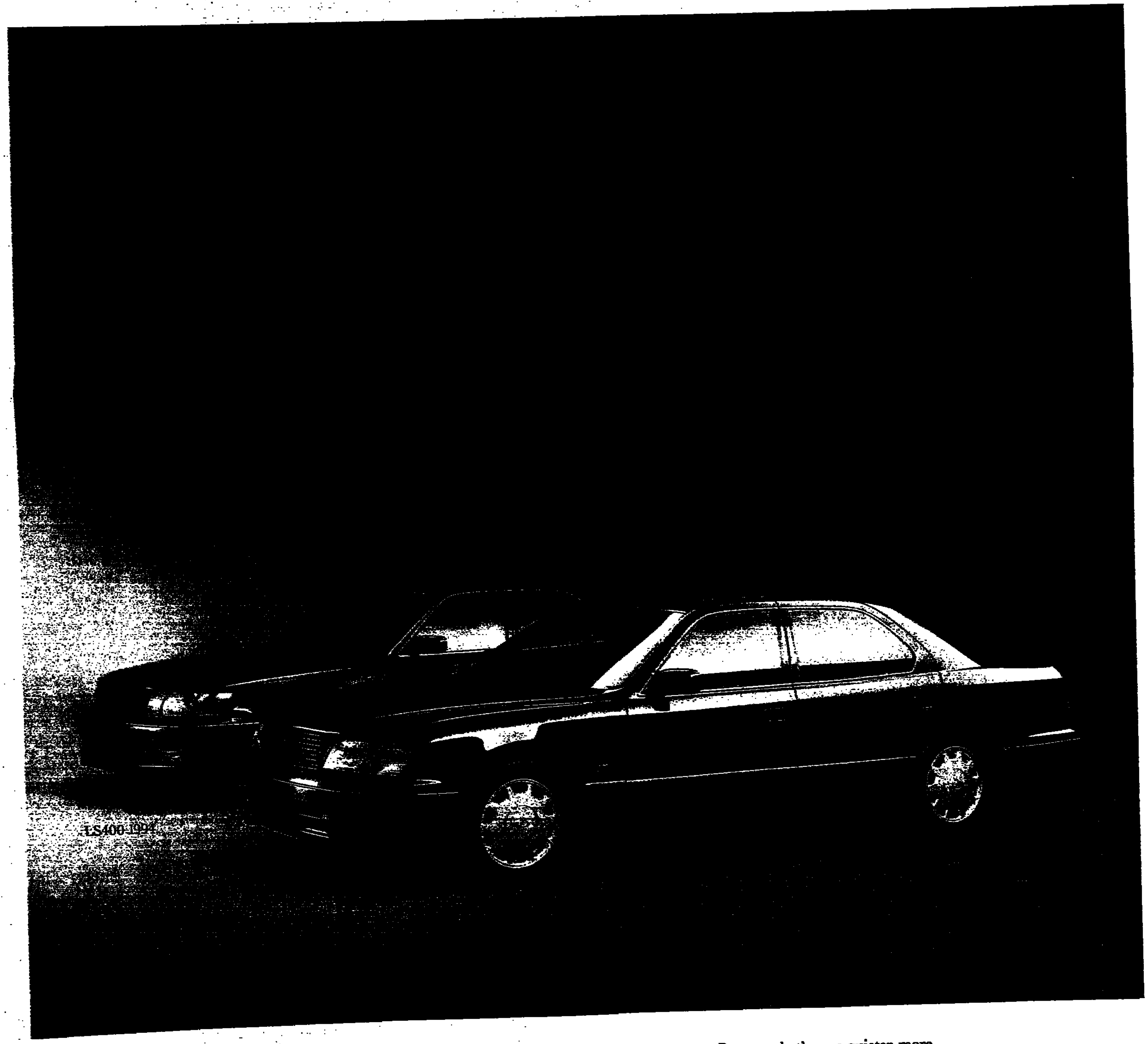

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‘There is too much hatred here. This is the end for the peace campaigners’

Militants’ ecstasy after bomb blasts fuels Israeli anger

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

PEACE in the Middle East retreated even farther yesterday as ecstatic Islamic militants in Gaza paid homage to the two suicide bombers who butchered 19 Jews on Sunday. Israel was plunged into mourning while the victims were buried amid scenes of mixed grief and fury.

Many Jews vowed revenge when they heard how the mass murder — which shocked to the core a nation supposedly inured to violence — was celebrated on the streets of the newly autonomous Gaza Strip. The two bombers were named proudly by Islamic Jihad, the Iranian-backed group which launched the attack at a crowded army pick-up point near Netanya. All but one of the victims were under 25.

At one wake attended by more than 1,000 Palestinians, an Arab shouting through a loudspeaker told the crowd of mainly young men celebrating with no sign of interference from the Palestinian police: “The Islamic movement gives its condolences to the hero of the attack which led to the killing of 20 pigs and the injuring of 60 monkeys.”

A Jewish office worker in her forties who heard the account of the macabre Palestinian celebrations as funerals were continuing throughout the country said, tears streaming down her face: “That is the end for the peace campaigners. There is too much hatred for this to continue without Israel taking action. With so many dead and wounded, virtually every family knows of someone involved.”

The contrast between the reaction in the two communities was the more stark as the distances between the two were so small.

At the wakes for the two bombers, Anwar Sukkar, 23, and Salah Shaker, 25, a male nurse, dates and Arab sweet pastries were served as a symbol for the supposed “sweetness” of the occasion.

Both dead militants were bachelors who had been involved in the intifada against Israel. Like other suicide bombers before them, they had been told that they would enjoy the special paradise set aside for Islamic martyrs, where life is rich and each fallen fighter is given 72 virgin brides. Undeterred by Palestine Liberation Organisation threats to clamp down on the militants, Shaikh Abdullah Shami, a leader of Islamic Jihad, promised at the wake for Mr Sukkar to keep up the campaign of suicide bombings for which the militants claim to have scores of volunteers standing by.

“Jihad (holy war) against the enemy will continue and will not stop”, he told the crowd of about 200 attending the ceremony held in a house in Gaza City.

Among those present was the dead bomber’s father, a traffic policeman in the PLO police appointed by Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader.

The attack was claimed in part as revenge for the shooting dead of three Palestinian police by Israeli troops. Despite the joy supposed by Islamic leaders to cover such occasions, the bomber’s mother appeared angry with the militants for luring her son, a carpenter who had served 11 months in an Israeli jail, into the mission. “They have taken my son away from me,” she wailed before being hushed by a woman activist from Islamic Jihad, who warned her that there were reporters present.

“It is a war between us and the Israelis that will not be settled by one operation here and another operation there,” said Shaikh Shami, spiritual leader of the group which operates freely inside the Gaza Strip. “The solution lies in uprooting the cause of the problem . . . the state of Israel.” In Israel, Jewish anger spilt over in demonstrations branding Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, as a traitor and calling on the Government to renounce its decision to continue talks with the PLO.

Senior security sources said that one reason that Arabs from the West Bank and Gaza were being kept out of Israel was their own safety. “There is a real danger that they could be attacked,” an official said.

The emotion was intensified by Israeli newspapers which carried front pages showing the faces of all the young victims, mostly soldiers, returning from weekend leave. The biggest-selling daily, Yediot Aharonot, carried the headline above its picture “The Children who will not Return”. Another newspaper said above the rows of photographs “The Tears of Rage”.

In the face of the anger, the Government announced an extension of the order given last year after the killing of 22 Jews by a bus bomb in Tel Aviv for the security forces to have a “special dispensation” when interrogating suspects, a euphemism for much tougher physical methods than usual.

Sukkar: son of a PLO traffic policeman

President Weizman, considered a super-dove, has touched a chord among ordinary Jews, but has angered some ministers who believe that his role is purely ceremonial

Weizman speaks out against talks with PLO

By Christopher Walker

EZER WEIZMAN, the swashbuckling former RAF fighter pilot who is Israel’s seventh President, has stirred up the fiercest controversy of his turbulent career. He has urged an end to talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation despite the determination of the Labour Government, which nominated him, to continue them.

With senior ministers yesterday reported to be “livid” with the 70-year-old President’s intervention in the political arena from which he is supposed to remain aloof, there was ample evidence on the country’s streets and in its media that Mr Weizman has once more struck a chord with ordinary Jews.

“Listen to Weizman!” said the right-wing Jerusalem Post over an editorial praising the President’s decision to ignore the advice of his illustrious uncle, Chaim Weizmann, Israel’s first President, who said that the holder of the mainly ceremonial post of head of state was permitted to poke his nose “only into his handkerchief”. Reflecting comments to be heard throughout Jewish west Jerusalem, the newspaper claimed that the call to reassess the peace process was unprecedented.

“Israeli Presidents are expected to grant pardons and meet dignitaries, not advise the Government on foreign affairs,” it said, adding: “That Weizman ignored protocol and spoke out following the massacre at Beit Lid [on Sunday] is a measure of his sensivity to the public mood and gravity of the hour.” The maverick President’s intervention and his hint that the crisis is now so serious that a government of national unity is required was guaranteed to have maximum impact, both because of its timing and the public perception of Mr Weizman as a super-dove who was a close personal friend of the late President Sadat of Egypt and the first member of the Israeli Cabinet to have contacts with the then outlawed PLO.

A mercurial former head of the air force and hero of the 1967 War, Mr Weizman — known by Menachem Begin, the late Prime Minister, as “my charming, naughty boy”

MAN IN THE NEWS

— used a graphic military metaphor to drive home his televised call for ending the talks in order to persuade the PLO to take action against the Islamic militants in their midst.

“The peace process is like a battle, the battle for peace. If one goes through a minefield, one stops and checks and stops again, examining the terrain astutely with proper tactics and proper attention to the conditions,” he maintained.

“No one just marches through, straight ahead, regardless of the dangers, without looking around. When one gets shelled, one needs to reassess. In the current situation, there has to be a review.”

Quake effects rock Tokyo market

From Gwen Robinson in Tokyo

A WAVE of selling hit the Tokyo stock market yesterday as the death toll from last week’s Kobe earthquake rose to more THan 5,000.

The selling raised fresh fears about delayed effects from the quake on the Japanese economy. “I think people are only beginning to realise just how serious this quake was, partly because news of the destruction came out in a slow-burning fashion,” Tom Hill, a strategist with S.G. Warburg Securities in Tokyo, said. Investors are likely to lose further confidence in the Japanese economy, as cost estimates emerge in the aftermath of the “Great Hanshin Earthquake”, as it has been officially named.

Many of those selling Japanese stocks were foreign investors, who sat on the sidelines amid uncertainty about the full extent of the earthquake damage. Analysts last night warned of a potential “landslide” effect if other important investors, including Japanese institutions, react to the run on the market with mass sell-offs of stock.

Authorities in the port city of Kobe reported last night that the death toll from the quake had risen to 5,051, with 106 missing and more than 26,200 injured. A British team from the International Rescue Corps, a non-government organisation, arrived yesterday to join rescue operations in the stricken region. Willie McMartin, who is leading the 15-member team, acknowledged that hopes have all but disappeared for finding any more survivors beneath the rubble in Kobe. Mr McMartin said his team had decided to come anyway, despite having its initial offer, made 30 minutes after the quake at dawn last Tuesday, rejected by the Japanese Government.

Three aftershocks rocked the city yesterday, including one measuring 4.3 on the Richter scale which caused buildings to sway and shattered glass. Driving rain and wind continued to hamper relief workers. The focus in the devastated city has turned to clearing rubble, dealing with the refugees and restoring basic needs.

More than 370,000 people remain homeless, although some services such as electricity and water have been restored to many affected areas. About two-thirds of the schools still standing after the quake held classes yesterday for the first time in a week.

Estimates of the cost of reconstruction and total damage inflicted by the quake have spiralled. Calculations by government planners, private think-tanks and securities firms have ranged from $10 billion (£6.6 billion) to $300 billion. The differentials are due to methods of calculation, some of which take into account the disruption of business and the greatly increased costs of rebuilding with superior materials and technology.

Stock markets, page 26

Mandela: involved in power struggle

Inquiry ordered by ANC

From Inigo Gilmore in Johannesburg

THE African National Congress yesterday announced it will investigate reports of financial irregularities in the National Tourism Forum, a non-governmental organisation chaired by Peter Mokaba, a senior ANC MP.

Investigation of the forum, which was established by the ANC, follows reports that 1.2 million rands (£240,000) had disappeared under Mr Mokaba’s chairmanship.

Mr Mokaba, who ordered an audit of the forum’s accounts which highlighted irregularities, has denied any wrong-doing. Ngoako Maphaoa, the executive director, has been suspended.

Winnie Mandela is also at the centre of a controversy over her alleged role in a struggle for control of the influential Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa). According to a Johannesburg newspaper, she recently helped to remove furniture and computers from the organisation’s headquarters.

A source close to Mrs Mandela admitted she participated, but insisted that the action was authorised by the Contralesa executive.

New Zealand plans to replace British honours system

From Michael Munro in Wellington

NEW ZEALAND is planning to phase out the British honours system and replace it with an enhanced set of existing local awards.

In a symbolic move towards republicanism, Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, yesterday appointed a committee of eight members to examine the honours system, which has already been replaced in Australia.

Mr Bolger, a republican who favours a solely New Zealand-based honours system, said that Philip Burdon, the Trade Minister, would head the committee. “We will change and that change will be to a unique system that reflects New Zealand,” Mr Bolger said. Paradoxically, four members of the committee have themselves been honoured by the Queen: Dame Miriam Dell, a former president of the International Council of Women and a campaigner for environmental and conservation causes; Areta Koopu, who was appointed a CBE for her work with the Maori Women’s Welfare League; Sharon Crosbie, OBE, a broadcaster; and Dr James Ng, MBE, a historian.

Since a referendum in November, 1993, which supported a switch to a proportional voting system based on Germany’s, Mr Bolger has maintained that New Zealand’s “British system of government” would inevitably end.

Any decision to cut ties with the monarchy is unlikely before 2000. As part of the “republican agenda” the Government has already moved to abandon the Privy Council as New Zealand’s final court of appeal by ordering a top-level legal report on the implications of doing so.

Trevor Rogers, a ruling party MP, said he was concerned the proposed changes were the result of “an urge” on the part of Mr Bolger rather than any public pressure for change. Other government sources said Mr Bolger was “fixated” with the issue.

Graeme Lee, a former minister in the Bolger Government and a strident monarchist, said Mr Burdon’s appointment as chairman of the advisory committee was unsuitable, given his declared support for a republic.

Mr Burdon rejected the charge, saying any suggestion he was “some sort of over-emotional republican” was unfair and belied everything that he stood for. “These issues are part of the progression and development of New Zealand as a country.”

☐ Sydney: The Australian Republican Movement unveiled its timetable for cutting formal ties with Britain yesterday, urging the Government to hold a referendum on the issue within the next four years (Roger Maynard writes).

The vote for constitutional change would be held with the general election after next, which is due no later than 1999. The movement’s plan will be put to the Government soon and Paul Keating, the Prime Minister, is expected to give it his blessing.

Wellington: Thousands of New Zealanders have received British honours. The list includes Sir Richard Hadlee, the cricketer; Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who sang at the Prince and Princess of Wales’s wedding; Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Everest; Sir Robert Muldoon, the late former Prime Minister; and Grant Fox and Colin Meads, rugby players appointed OBEs.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Santer call for greater EU unity

Brussels: Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission for the past decade, brought a turbulent era to an end yesterday when he formally handed over to his successor, Jacques Santer (George Brock writes).

Mr Santer, Prime Minister of Luxembourg for ten years, told EU foreign ministers yesterday that the Union needs “a new qualitative leap to greater union”.

Soldier dies

Bonn: Storms killed two people, including a British soldier, and towns along the Mosel and Saar in western Germany prepared for more flooding as rain continued. The soldier, 21, died when a tree fell on his tent. *(Reuter)*

Leader to quit

Lisbon: Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Prime Minister of Portugal, said that he would resign as leader of the centre-right Social Democrat Party and would not seek re-election in the October polls. *(Reuter)*

Last respects

Tehran: More than 30,000 mourners attended the funeral of Mehdi Bazargan, the former Prime Minister, who led the Government after the 1979 Islamic revolution. *(AFP)*

Judge slain

Kiel: A divorce court judge was murdered by a man who cut her throat with a knife, court officials said. The man was aggrieved at not being given custody of his son. *(AFP)*

MP shot dead

Madrid: The Basque separatist group Eta was presumed responsible for shooting dead Gregorio Ordóñez, a local MP in San Sebastian, the Basque resort.

Conciliatory Patten lauds Deng reforms

From Jonathan Mirsky in Hong Kong

CHRIS PATTEN, the Governor of Hong Kong, held out an olive branch to Peking yesterday when he praised Deng Xiaoping, the seriously ailing supreme leader, and Chinese officials.

In a speech to foreign correspondents, he avoided speculating about Mr Deng’s health or its impact on Hong Kong. Mr Patten will arrive in London tomorrow. He usually makes robust speeches before such visits so he can arrive in Whitehall trailing an air of command.

But yesterday he said that Hong Kong and China were economically “umbilically-linked” and that whatever leaders might emerge across the border, he was sure they would continue “the spectacular Deng Xiaoping revolution.”

Mr Patten was pressed on problems of the revolution, such as the imprisonment of foreign businessmen and about the theft of intellectual property. He praised Chinese officials for admitting they had problems, saying: “That kind of openness is good.”

Although in the past he has warned the Chinese to change their ways, to adopt the rule of law and respect human rights, he cautioned his audience not to “expect the impossible from China,” and not to be “starry eyed.”

On the ceremonies marking the transfer of sovereignty in 1997, Mr Patten foresaw co-operation to achieve a dignified observance, which would need to include “the departure of the Governor”.

☐ Peking: China has executed at least 125 people in the past two weeks in a crackdown on crime ahead of the lunar New Year, the China News Service reported yesterday. Among those to be put to death was a 42-year-old lorry driver nicknamed the “Guangdong Ripper”, who was convicted of killing 12 young women. *(Reuter)*

‘Sweatshop’ Britain works longest

From Wolfgang Münchau in Brussels

BRITAIN is the sweatshop of Europe with the longest working hours in the European Union, according to the latest statistics.

The average working week in Britain was 43.4 hours in 1992, almost five hours more than in Belgium, the country with the shortest working hours. The difference are even more pronounced for male employees, who work an average 45.1 hours a week in Britain and only 38.7 hours in Belgium. Britain is also the only EU country where women work more than 40 hours on average.

The differences in working hours widened between 1983 and 1992. While they went down in ten of the 12 countries, they increased in Britain and Ireland. Eurostat, the EU’s statistics office, commented dryly that “the general tendency is not towards convergence”.

In six countries — Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands and Luxembourg — employees work fewer than 40 hours on average. In Germany, the average working week is expected to decline substantially in the next few years, as employers and employees are edging towards a compromise on a four-day week as part of a to reduce unemployment.

Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, yesterday had an opportunity to express his scepticism on some of the European Commission’s social policy plans at a meeting in Brussels with Padraig Flynn, the Irish Social Affairs Commissioner.

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Blood and tears stain city where only death can claim victory

*Grozny's civilians are caught between Moscow's war machine and Chechen warriors: **Anthony Loyd**, who has reported from the frontline of Bosnia, says its plight is even more harrowing to witness*

GROZNY is a hell in which death can come at any time. This is not suffering in a conflict between two evenly-matched armies. This densely-populated city is being blown to pieces by the second most powerful war machine on earth, with total disregard for civilian casualties.

The intensity of the violence is shocking. The city is the embodiment of chaos, as if a hurricane of shrapnel has been blasted through every street, pitting, tearing and scarring each building with the irregular bite of high explosives.

Glass is blown like a carpet across every street; the trees are horizontal and smashed; gas pipes flame and buildings smoke. The air is full of a succession of explosive intrusions — hiss, crunch, crash, thump, bang, with no respite.

The front lines shift each day, building by building, alley by alley, allowing snipers and artillery observers to move around at will. The incoming fire, whether from artillery, mortars, rocket systems, aircraft or helicopter gunships, is of such intensity that to take the shortest journey is to risk a type of mobile Russian roulette.

You walk past a man who is rattling his last breath; you are then shot at by a Russian sniper, and are told when you have escaped that it was the same one who shot the man in the head.

Meanwhile, the people taking the route you would have taken 25 yards further on, had you known about the sniper, are turned into red chaff by a shell at about the same second that the gunman is shooting at you.

The corpses vary. There are people blown out of their flats; dead dogs, blown off the streets, and dead birds, blown off the roofs and out of the sky. There is blood everywhere, vivid on the white snow. Pathetic shallow graves are accumulating among the shattered trees of the parks and gardens.

The living are taking on a troglodyte existence in deep basements and cellars, emerging pale-faced at dawn to tramp in search of food and water, and bury their dead. There is no life as such, no undertaking that is not connected to the basic requirements of survival or fighting.

Most of the civilians are Russian, and the majority of them are old. Yesterday a third of the people I spoke to just broke down in tears.

The Chechens, by contrast, all seem to be soldiers. They are swarthy and energetic, resilient beyond belief, smile a lot, and appear to enjoy fighting.

They know their city inside out and will leave a historic mark in military appraisals of 20th century street fighting. Dark-haired, many shaven-headed and bearded, they are an ancient warrior people, believe in themselves, and as a result are very, very tough.

They may have lost the Presidential Palace in the centre of Grozny, but this has only steeled their resolve to fight on.

☐ **Armour pours in:** The latest Russian reinforcements arriving into Grozny yesterday included troops, armoured vehicles and self-propelled heavy artillery, witnesses said.

Gleb Bryansky, a Reuter television producer, saw a column of 150 vehicles moving into the capital from the north. Another 40 armoured vehicles and six self-propelled guns arrived on flat-bed trucks at a railhead north of the city, he said.

It was not immediately clear whether the reinforcements were a prelude to a new Russian onslaught after four days of relative calm. Mr Bryansky said it was the biggest Russian reinforcement he had seen so far in the city.

The vehicles included trucks filled with troops, armoured personnel carriers and multi-barrelled anti-aircraft guns that can be put to deadly use when deployed for street fighting.

Meanwhile in Brussels, European Union Foreign Ministers decided at a meeting that no EU sanctions would be launched against the Russian Government over its military suppression of Chechen independence.

The ministers condemned "grave violations of human rights" and demanded peace negotiations and access to the war zone for humanitarian aid. A statement said: "The European Union continues to follow developments in Chechenia with great concern. It deplores the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law which are still occurring there."

But the statement made no reference at all to two trade and co-operation agreements which the EU is working on with Russia. The European Commission is free to go slow with the first of the agreements but no explicit threat of sanctions will be made.

The European Commission, Germany and The Netherlands had been expected to press for tougher measures, but they accepted the view of the majority, that criticism of Russian action should be kept light enough to preserve President Yeltsin's position in power.

British officials emphasised that Western reaction to the conflict in Chechenia must not strengthen the hand of the Russian army in their battle over economic and political reforms. *(Reuter)*

Britain's new chief in Bosnia to adopt quieter media role

By Eve-Ann Prentice and Michael Evans

A SENIOR civilian media adviser has been allocated to Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, who takes over today as commander of the United Nations troops in Bosnia. Initially, the general is expected to adopt a lower profile than was customary with Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, his predecessor.

Fred Eckhard, a highly experienced UN spokesman with a deep knowledge of the Balkan conflict, will spend a month in Sarajevo overhauling relations between the UN Protection Force and the media. His appointment comes after months of increasing international press condemnation of General Rose.

"Smith was never one for the limelight," one officer in Sarajevo said yesterday. "I think he is likely to be less vocal than General Rose," another UN source said.

Mr Eckhard, who at 51 is the same age as the media-wary General Smith, says that he will stay in the Bosnian capital only long enough to oversee the appointment of more civilian spokesmen and help to improve their links with military spokesmen. Diplomatic sources in Geneva and New York say, however, that they hope he will stay.

Mr Eckhard was spokesman for the Geneva peace process under Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, the former UN peace negotiator, from 1992 until May 1993. He is believed to have left Geneva after disagreements with Lord Owen and was replaced by another spokesman, John Mills. "Fred Eckhard is one of the best spokesmen I have come across in my career," Jurg Bissegger, UN correspondent of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation, said. "His background information was always reliable and informative, but he got into trouble with Lord Owen."

Mr Eckhard's Sarajevo mission comes after General Smith visited the UN in New York and "indicated that the spokesman system needed looking at", a UN source said. Mr Eckhard, who is spokesman for all UN peacekeeping operations, said: "We promised we would get General Smith a good senior spokesman, and I will assess the situation."

With the conclusion of General Rose's command of the UN troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina yesterday, his successor has been left only a partial solution to the Balkan madness that has lasted for nearly three years.

No UN military commander expects to return home after completing his tour in Bosnia with laurels of gratitude from the warring parties. General Rose, who flew from Sarajevo to the Croatian port of Split yesterday, was no exception. By the time he had packed to go home after the full 12 months in the top post — a feat none of his predecessors managed — he had succeeded in upsetting many of the leading figures both in and out of Bosnia.

Smith: not a man to grasp the limelight

His end-of-term achievement report would vary depending on who was writing it, but the history of the conflict will show that General Rose, more than any of his predecessors, succeeded in changing the course of the conflict and the whole concept of UN peacekeeping.

His critics have been quick to denounce him, claiming that he started his command in a robust and hard-nosed fashion and ended a humbled victim of Balkan and Western politics, guilty of succumbing too easily to Bosnian Serb pressure.

The truth is that the Western media which has played no small part in forming and changing policy in Bosnia, built him up as a hero before he even landed at Sarajevo airport to take over from the disillusioned Belgian, General Francis Briquemont.

Within weeks, the guns around the Bosnian capital had been silenced and withdrawn, partly through General Rose's no-nonsense approach. No wonder General Rose was viewed as the miracle man.

From that moment, it was always going to be in the Bosnian Serbs' interest to pull him down from the pedestal erected by the outside world and to turn him into an anti-hero. In some ways, they succeeded, particularly over Gorazde and Bihac where General Rose was perceived, rightly or wrongly, to have failed to take sufficiently decisive action to stop the Serb attacks on the Muslim enclaves.

General Rose helps to make bread for French troops during his farewell party

However, ever since the first airstrike by Nato aircraft on Serb targets near Gorazde in April last year, the Bosnian conflict and the UN's role took on a new dimension. Suddenly General Rose was at the centre of a post-Cold War power struggle involving the future of Nato, the future of Nato's relationship with the UN, and the function of air power in a peacekeeping environment.

General Rose was expected to ignore the restrictions imposed by his UN mandate, largely limited to escorting humanitarian aid, and to stride forth against the Serbs, backed by an armada of Nato bombers. It was wishful thinking on Nato's part, unrealistic and had nothing to do with peacekeeping.

As he flies back to Britain today, however, for a long holiday General Rose has handed his successor a peaceful central region, a Bosnian capital no longer under remorseless artillery fire and a reorganised UN command that has increased the effectiveness of the peacekeeping forces throughout the country.

☐ **Rome:** Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, has indicated in an interview published here yesterday that his breakaway republic, which controls 70 per cent of the country, might be prepared to accept 50 per cent. *(AFP)*

Dini sets out plans to reform economy

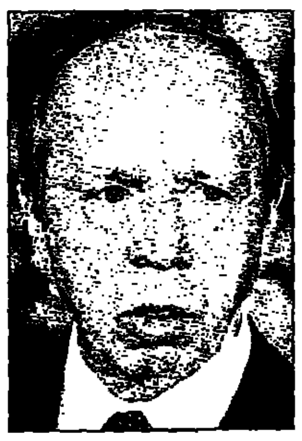
From John Phillips
in Rome

LAMBERTO DINI, the Italian Prime Minister, yesterday pledged that his technocratic Government will be transitional but also outlined an ambitious programme of policy objectives, raising suspicions among his detractors that he will try to prolong his short-term mandate.

In his inaugural speech to the Chamber of Deputies, Signor Dini, 63, said his administration will have served its purpose when it reins in the runaway public spending deficit that threatens to bankrupt Italy, and reforms the country's generous state pension system. "To dispel misunderstanding, I confirm that the Government will consider its duty exhausted as soon as the four commitments taken on as an essential part of its programme are exhausted," Signor Dini said. He hoped to introduce the other main planks of his programme, reform of the regional election system and reform of political access to television, by next month.

Signor Dini promised to introduce a mini-budget by the spring, warning that Italy risks becoming increasingly isolated within Europe unless the state exercises "maximum rigour". On foreign policy, he appeared to differ from the Eurosceptic line followed by his predecessor, Silvio Berlusconi. "The idea of Europe is rooted in our constitution ... Italy remains profoundly committed to maintain the political unity of Europe," he said. He also pledged to try to take Italy back into the European Monetary System.

The Prime Minister went on to outline numerous proposals, including pursuit of the privatisation programme, begun by previous Governments, support for the impoverished *mezzogiorno* in the south, a new national defence model, reforms in the battle against organised crime, and of the legal and penal systems.



Dini: state must exercise rigour

Prison fails to dampen Jackal's ardour

From Charles Bremner
in Paris

MONTHS in a Paris jail have apparently done little to dampen the seductive charm of Carlos the Jackal, the terrorist whose capture last August was a triumph for the French Government.

According to the governor of the Santé prison in central Paris, warders caught Ilich Ramirez Sánchez, the alleged killer and Don Juan of the terrorist world, entertaining a woman lawyer on his lap. The incident was one of two involving what the authorities term the "strange behaviour" of Marie-Annick Ramassamy-Vergès, a member of the defence team led by Jacques Vergès, who is no relation.

Mme Ramassamy-Vergès, the daughter of a former Socialist senator from the Indian Ocean territory of La Réunion, arrived for a routine meeting with Sánchez and refused a chair, saying she was staying for only five minutes, according to the governor's complaint to Judge Jean-Louis Bruguière, the investigating magistrate for terrorism.

"A few moments later, a chief warder saw that she was seated on the knees of the prisoner." The guard intervened to make her "adopt an attitude more in keeping with the place". Her behaviour, the governor added, seemed "totally intolerable on the part of a lawyer".

The lawyer was subsequently summoned to be reprimanded by the head of the Paris Bar, according to *Le Point*, which reported the affair at the weekend. A month after the incident, which took place last October, gendarmerie officers escorting Sánchez to the judge's chambers reported that Mme Ramassamy-Vergès was suspiciously interested in their operation, asking detailed questions about their units and numbers and weapons, according to the governor's report reproduced by the magazine.

The defence team has been involved in controversy before. Last autumn, files in the archives of the Stasi, the former East German security police, depicted M Vergès as a member of the Carlos network. He has denied the charge.

Turkish novelist faces five-year jail sentence

From Andrew Finkel
in Istanbul

IN DEFIANCE of Western public opinion, Istanbul's state security court yesterday committed Yasar Kemal, Turkey's most famous novelist, to trial. Mr Kemal, whose life was the subject of a recent BBC documentary, faces a possible five-year prison sentence for an outspoken article published in *Der Spiegel*, the German magazine.

In the article, Mr Kemal referred to Turkish republican history as 70 years of "oppression and atrocity". His harshest comments were reserved for what he called the brutality of the army. Its efforts to suppress Kurdish separatism in the southeast of the country was shielded by a "campaign of lies", he wrote.

In remarks destined to attract the attention of the public prosecutor, Mr Kemal implied that although most Turkish Kurds did not support separatism, it was increasingly difficult to argue against those who did.

"Yasar Kemal is on trial for saying there is not enough democracy in Turkey. I guess that means he was right," Orhan Pamuk, another popular Turkish novelist who accompanied Mr Kemal to his trial, said.

Few Turkish adolescents finish school without reading Mr Kemal's epic tales about simple people who grow into legend. Most popular and widely translated is *Mehmet My Hawk*, the tale of a peasant who is forced by injustice into becoming an outlaw.

It is a story Mr Kemal, himself the son of a poor villager, is in danger of repeating in real life. At 73 he becomes the doyen of a lengthening list of writers charged with violating Turkey's anti-terrorism law. This makes it an offence to engage in propaganda aimed at destroying the integrity of the Turkish state.

The court yesterday rejected the prosecutor's appeal to detain Mr Kemal pending his trial. Such limited clemency is unlikely to stem growing criticism against what appears to be the Turkish state security court's rearguard action to improve Turkey's human-rights record.

"Time will tell that it is my prosecutors who are on trial," Mr Kemal said as he left the court.

Last December, a court in Ankara sentenced seven Kurdish nationalist deputies to terms of up to 15 years for abetting terrorism. Criticism of that decision in the European Parliament led to European foreign ministers postponing final negotiations on Turkey's long-standing attempt to enter into a customs union with EU member states.

The talks will take place in March. With the exception of Athens, most European capitals regard customs union as an essential policy to prevent Turkey from drifting into reckless isolation.

☐ Copenhagen: The Danish Government announced it had taken up the cause of 400 fasting prisoners held in what it called deplorable conditions in a Turkish jail.

Niels Helveg Petersen, the Foreign Minister, told parliament he would raise the living conditions and alleged torture of political prisoners at Izmir's Buca prison with the Turkish Government, as well as with the European Union and among the Nordic countries. Four hundred political prisoners, more than half of them Kurds, have been on hunger strike for over a month in protest against their detention without trial and their living conditions which are described as intolerable.

The Danish minister said the hunger strike "is a reaction to the conditions in this prison, where illegal interrogation methods, including torture, are being used. Food and water given to the prisoners are of a bad quality and many illnesses, notably tuberculosis, are not adequately treated," Mr Petersen said. The Government decided to intervene after confirmation of the conditions in Buca by a Turkish human rights organisation. *(AFP)*

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Television crews descend on Los Angeles court to relay trial of a global celebrity

O.J. Simpson jury allowed to see murder pictures

■ Giles Whittell reports from Los Angeles as the O.J. Simpson murder trial gets under way

A JUDGE ruled yesterday that jurors in the *O. J. Simpson* case can see bloody photographs of the victims and the crime scene during opening statements, despite defence *objections*.

Lance Ito, the Superior Court Judge, rejected a defence request to make the prosecution use diagrams instead of photographs of the crime scene during opening statements in the trial of Mr *Simpson, accused of murdering* his former wife Nicole and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

Twenty television crews, two novelists, more than 100 reporters and a comedian on assignment for the BBC, gathered yesterday to bring opening statements to a global audience that until last June knew Mr Simpson only as a former football player and bit-part actor, if at all.

Lawyers who have unavoidably become celebrities in their own right were expected to seize the chance to impress on the jury their version of what happened on the night of June 12 last year when Nicole Simpson and Goldman were *stabbed to death outside her* home in west Los Angeles.

The case, which has enthralled millions with its ingredients of wealth, fame, violence and tragedy, generated a palpable tension in court and giddy excitement outside as a handful of members of the public who had entered a lottery for courtroom seats were told they had won.

Marcia Clark, the prosecutor, *was also due to* go on the offensive with photographic evidence from the murder scene and a detailed summary of the wealth of circumstantial *evidence, including* blood DNA analysis, which she says links Mr Simpson to the crime.

Lawyers from Mr Simpson's vaunted legal "dream team" were expected to hit back with the "three Cs" *defence, alleging that police* rendered the prosecution's evidence worthless through confusion, contamination and corruption.

The physical evidence at the prosecution's disposal, including bloodstains found at Mr Simpson's mansion the morning after the murders, is strong enough for one expert, Victor Bugliosi, the former Los Angeles District Attorney, to *have said that he would be* "embarrassed to try the case".

But Mr Simpson's lawyers will exploit the fact that there were no witnesses to the murders, picking holes in the credibility of DNA analysis, accusing police of slipshod *handling of evidence and in* one eagerly awaited showdown, suggesting that a detective planted incriminating evidence in the garden.

Nicole Simpson: killed outside her home

The lead defence lawyer, Johnnie Cochran, was expect*ed to allege a "rush to judgement"* by police, who claimed they visited Mr Simpson's house on June 13 simply to tell him of his former wife's death. The defence contends that after their arrival, detectives flouted proper procedures and *violated Mr Simpson's rights* by entering his grounds without a warrant.

The sheer weight of interest in the case, which a third of adult Americans have said they will follow daily, has raised the stakes in what would have been a *straightfor*ward murder trial but for the defendant's enormous wealth and popularity.

Women's rights activists *have settled on it as a test cast* that they hope will demonstrate a link between alleged spousal abuse and a readiness to kill. Blacks have shown themselves consistently more sympathetic than whites towards Mr Simpson, who has *pleaded innocent, bringing* a potentially explosive racial dimension to the trial. The case has sparked fierce debate on whether, by hiring top-flight legal talent that has challenged the prosecution every step of the way, Mr Simpson has, in effect, bought lenient treatment.

Broader issues took a back seat yesterday, however, as lawyers grappled with the *evidence in front of the jury for* the first time. Leslie Abramson, a defence lawyer commenting on the case for the *Los Angeles Times*, said that Marcia Clark's *task was* "to impress them that science is smart, science answers questions, science solves problems ... and isn't voodoo."

O.J. Simpson, the former footballer and actor at the centre of the Los Angeles courtroom drama

Publicity sought before the hearing

CHRONOLOGY

☐ **June 12, 1994: Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman are *murdered*.**

☐ **June 13: O. J. Simpson returns from Chicago, explains alibi to police.**

☐ **June 17: Mr Simpson flees when arrest *warrant issued*. Apprehended after televised chase in Los Angeles.**

☐ **July 8: Municipal court Judge Kathleen Kennedy-*Powell orders* Mr Simpson to stand trial for murders. He pleads not guilty.**

☐ **July 20: Simpson lawyers set up free number and offer $500,000 (£333,000) reward for information on "real killer or killers".**

☐ ***July 30: Grand jury tran*scripts with claims that Mr Simpson stalked and abused ex-wife are revealed.**

☐ **August 24: Defence hotline disconnected after *receiving* 250,000 calls but no leads.**

☐ **September 9: Gil Garcetti, district attorney, says he will *not seek death penalty for Mr* Simpson.**

☐ **September 26: Jury selection starts.**

☐ **October: Paula Barbieri, *Mr Simpson's current* girlfriend, appears in *Playboy*.**

☐ **October 3: Superior Court Judge Lance Ito threatens to ban TV coverage of the trial because of inaccurate reporting.**

☐ **December 8: Jury selection is completed with a final panel of seven blacks, four whites and one Hispanic.**

☐ **January 8: Simpson sources announce forthcoming *publication of his* jailhouse memoir *I Want To Tell You*.**

☐ **January 18: Judge Ito allows some of the prosecution's evidence of alleged spousal abuse by Mr Simpson to be heard in court.**

☐ **January 23: *Opening* statements.**

Bloodstains found at home of accused

THE CRIME

SOMETIME between 9.45 and 11pm on Sunday, June 12 1994, Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend, Ronald *Goldman, were murdered in a violent* knife attack on the tiled path leading to her home at 875 South Bundy Avenue in Brentwood, a wealthy western suburb of Los Angeles. There were no witnesses, but Nicole's *white* Akita dog was later found wandering the streets with bloodied paws.

When police visited the mansion of O. J. Simpson, Nicole's estranged husband, the next morning, they found bloodstains on his driveway and white Ford Bronco. A caretaker, Kato Kaelin, told them Mr Simpson was away on business in Chicago, but reported hear*ing three loud thumps outside his cottage* at the edge of the compound at about 10.40 the previous evening.

Mr Simpson, who had been picked up by a limousine at 11pm to be taken to the airport, returned to Los Angeles on the Monday, having been told of the killings. After being interviewed by police for *three hours without a lawyer present*, he was released without charge.

When a warrant for his arrest was issued four days later, Robert Shapiro, his lawyer, promised that he would surrender at police headquarters to avoid the humiliation of handcuffs. Instead, accompanied by his friend and former footballer, Al Cowlings, he led police on the now-famous car chase.

Republican *plan to cut* UN cash

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

SENIOR Republicans in Congress have introduced legislation that would reduce America's payments to the United Nations by up to $1 billion (£666 million) a year, almost certainly affecting direct American funding of *peacekeeping operations in* the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Central America.

The strategy, challenging the Clinton Administration's handling of foreign policy, would substantially alter Washington's calculations of *its contributions to the UN* and could seriously affect the organisation if any other large donors decide to follow suit.

Madeleine Albright, American Ambassador to the UN, has denounced the Republican plan which she said "could *eliminate*, by our own calculation, all US payments for UN peacekeeping" and lead to "budgetary anarchy" in New York.

Although *recent opinion* polls show that the electorate is divided over UN peacekeeping *issues*, memories of the catastrophic experience in Somalia and a lingering suspicion that the American intervention in Haiti could still go wrong are seen as a signal that there is little support for Washington's involvement in such missions.

Clinton forced to prove he still has relevance

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON, in his *State of the Union speech* tonight, has to reinvent himself for the umpteenth time and prove to the American people that he is still relevant, despite the Republican takeover of Congress.

The speech was still going *through draft after draft at the* White House yesterday as Mr Clinton and his speechwriters struggled to present his theme in a way, as one of them put it, that would be more vision than laundry list.

Mr Clinton faces the ex*traordinarily challenging task* of trying to change the public perception of a sitting President. He is widely viewed as a flip-flopper on issues and an old-style, big-spending liberal at heart, rather than the "New Democrat" he claims to be. *This is his last* chance, barring a war or crisis, to address a vast national audience before the election campaign season opens in earnest. It is, beyond *question, the most important* speech of Mr Clinton's presidency, Leon Panetta, his chief of staff, said.

Wretchedly for him, it must be delivered before a joint session of Congress where the Republican majority is unlikely to reward him with repeated standing ovations. To find a precedent, one has to go back to Harry Truman in *1948* who, after a similar loss of both Houses of Congress, faced the hurdle of projecting strong leadership. To do so, he took the early Cold War initiatives and cast the Republicans as a do-nothing bunch. Now the Republicans have their "Contract for America" and Newt *Gingrich, who has per*sonalised the office of Speaker as nobody before. He will be staring down from the podium over Mr Clinton's shoulder tonight.

Weeks of soul-searching have preceded the speech. Mr *Clinton has sought guidance* from a wide range of scholars, politicians, religious leaders, retired generals and old friends, but the only one *everyone remembers is a moti*vational guru who inspires his followers to walk barefoot over red-hot coals.

Mr Clinton will be combative at times, especially on welfare reform, a favourite target of Republicans. He does *not believe that most Americans* really want to reduce welfare in a way that simply punishes poor people. Nor will he tolerate efforts to repeal some of his most prized accomplishments, including the ban on 19 assault weapons and a national service programme that pays college fees in return for community ser*vice. He will push his so-called* Middle Class Bill of Rights, unveiled last month, which includes tax cuts for families with young children and tax deductions to pay for college education, retirement accounts and job retraining. He will seek compromise with Republicans on healthcare re*form by trying to rescue some* insurance reforms from last year's fiasco.

Key elements of the speech were still up in the air yesterday, including whether to recommend adding up to a dollar to the minimum wage, *now $4.25 (£2.70) an hour*. Mr Clinton will brag about the economy, which has produced 5.5 million new jobs, and his reduction of government, *which has cut the payroll by* 100,000 and is remoulding or scrapping dozens of federal programmes.

Foreign policy will receive relatively short shrift in the 40-minute address, but Mr Clinton will ask Republicans for *bipartisan help in emphasis*ing the necessity for America to remain engaged in the world after the Cold War, to build a coalition of the centre and to defend and advance America's interests. He will urge the continued promotion of democracy in Russia. He will ask for help in passing $40 billion in loan guarantees *to bail out Mexico*.

Workman: Difficult landings at 100 mph

Lost post for woman navy pilot

FROM JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK

THE first woman fighter *pilot in America to qualify* for combat duty on board an aircraft carrier has been reassigned after having difficulty landing at 100mph *on the heaving deck*.

Lieutenant Shannon Workman, 28, who flew combat patrols over southern Iraq, has been ordered to leave the *USS Eisenhower* in the Adriatic and return to land-based duty in the United States. A male pilot has also been transferred.

Tributes to *matriarch of* Kennedy dynasty pour in

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

EVERY flag in Boston was at half-mast yesterday, only one of many tributes to Rose Kennedy, matriarch of one of America's greatest political dynasties, who died this week.

Her death brought sweeping eulogies from every political quarter and resulted in an *intense re-examination of the* triumphs and epic tragedies surrounding the Kennedy clan. "Very few Americans have endured as much personal sacrifice for their country as Rose Kennedy," said President Clinton. "She played an extraordinary role in the life of an extraordinary family."

John Kenneth Galbraith, a former adviser to President Kennedy, said there would be *no doubt of her place in* history. "She will be remembered as the mother of the *most politically spectacular* and successful and useful and modern political family of our time," he said. Thomas Menino, the Mayor of Boston, *described her as* "an inspiration to many Americans, proud of the many accomplishments of her family, and showing courage during tragedies".

Mrs Kennedy, who died of pneumonia, aged 104, in the family compound at Hyannis Port on Cape Cod, remained a woman of substance, style and privacy throughout her life.

But, as her close friend Marie Greene once said, she was also a woman of emotional steel. "She may look as fragile as a violet, *but don't be deceived* for a minute," she said. "If Rose had been a boy, she, not Jack, would have been the first Catholic President of the United States."

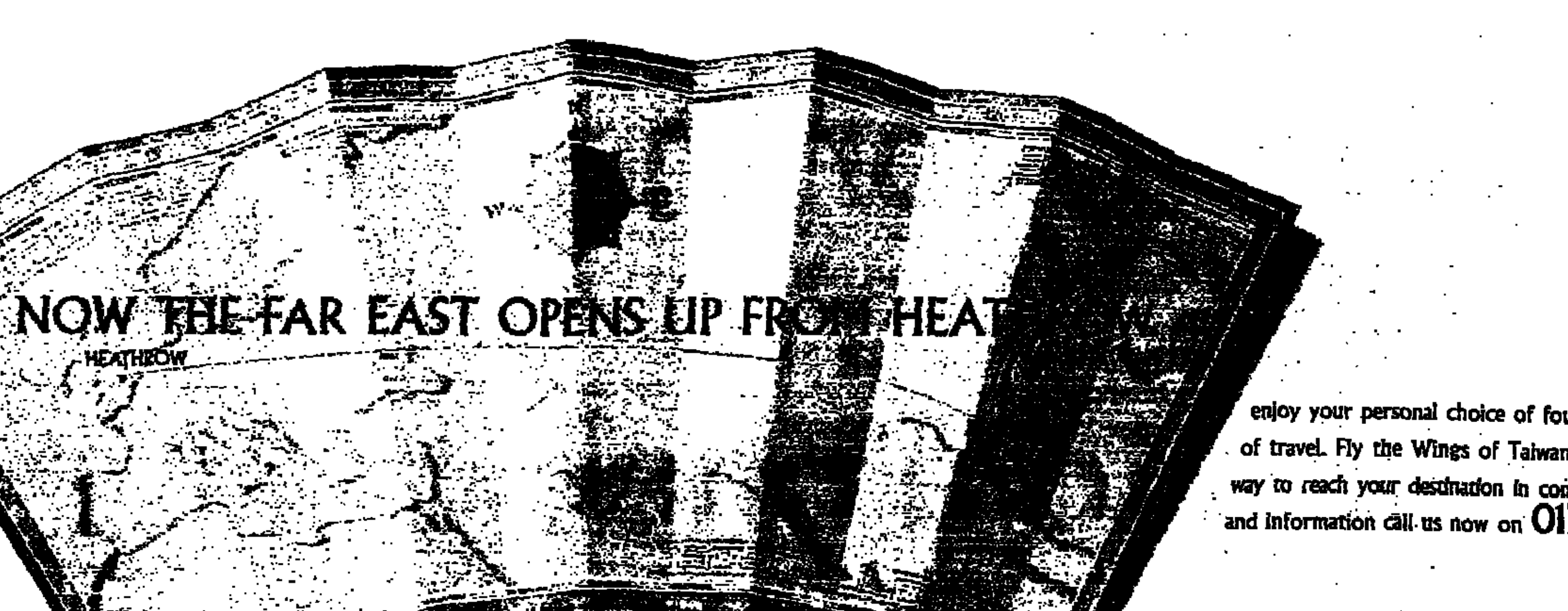
Her ambition for her family helped to create a breed of women quite able to tolerate the flagrant infidelities of their men. Rose herself presided with icy calm over her straying husband, Joseph, whose affairs were legion. One of his much-publicised dalliances was with the actress Gloria Swanson. Among others, her sons Robert and John were later involved with Marilyn Monroe.

"I *think Rose was* completely detached from the reality of life and was a very strange woman," said one Kennedy biographer who asked not to *be named. He said Mrs Ken*nedy had made a deal with her husband that she would help create a dynasty and ignore his indiscretions in return for a life of *distinction*. She would be taken to visit the Queen or the Pope while being allowed to control the purse-strings and spend large amounts of the family fortune on expensive jewellery and clothes.

The strictures of her Roman *Catholic upbringing* combined with the accepted debauchery of her husband, it has been said, helped spawn a family destined for difficulties. There is little doubt that it also gave Mrs Kennedy the strength to deal with the spate *of tragedies* which saw four of her nine children die in their prime. When John was shot in Dallas on November 22, 1963, she returned to the compound, masking her grief with *immediate* practicality, even remembering extra pairs of *stockings for* her daughters to wear at his funeral.

Kennedy: tolerated her husband's infidelities

Obituary, page 21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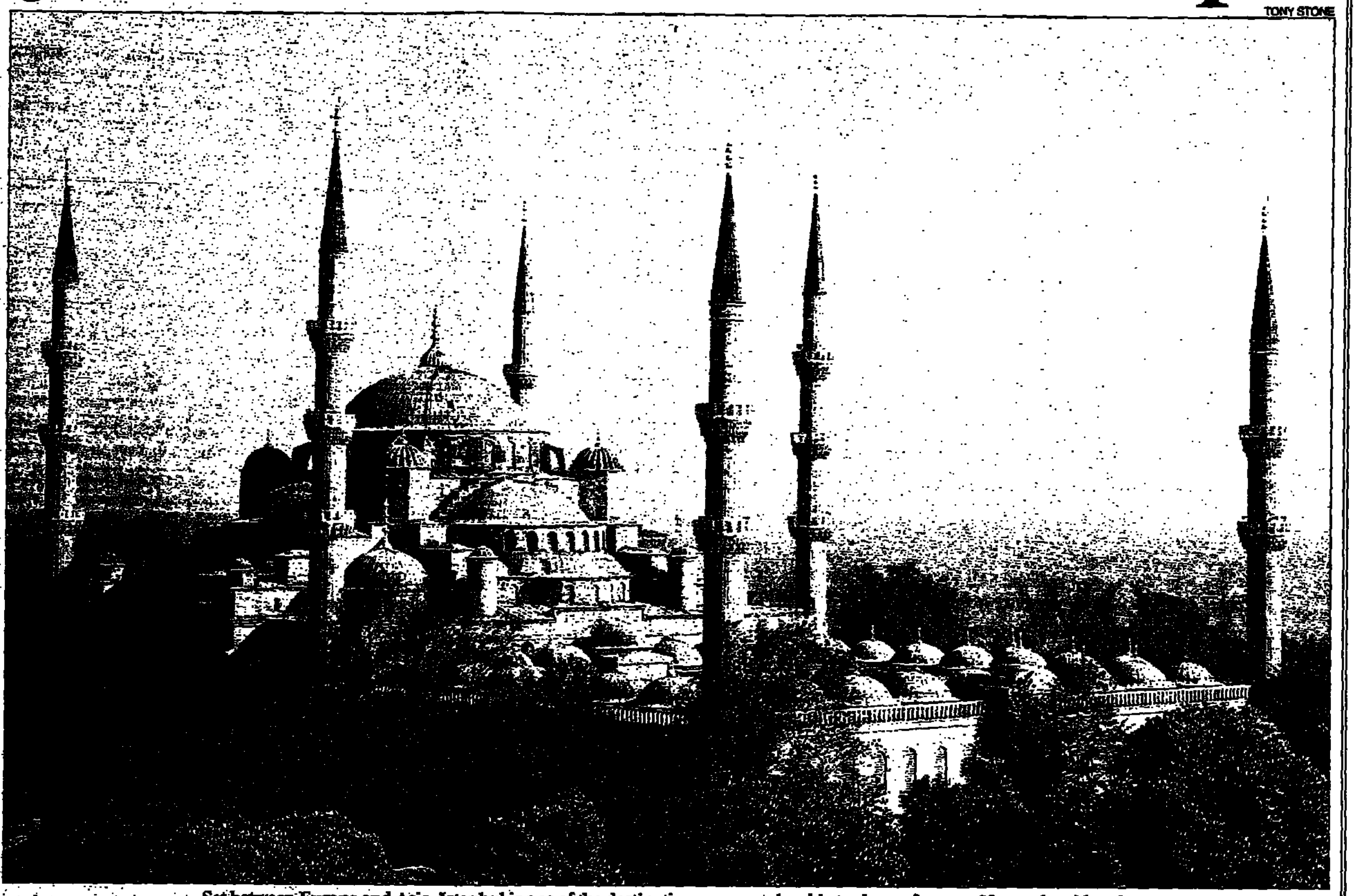

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Short Break: Marrakech (CKS). Two nights or more, from £400 (£320).

Morocco: High Atlas Traverse (STE). This 13-day tour includes a nine-day drive to the remote Ait Bougmez Valley. From £1,080 (£865). Other offerings include a ten-day trip incorporating a short trek in the Jebel Sahro mountain ranges for £1,055 (£845), a ten-day Land Rover Safari from Marrakech along the Draa river course for £1,250 (£999) and a 13-day natural history tour of Morocco with the naturalist Martin Jacoby, for £1,565 (£1,252). A 13-day Zambia walking safari with a naturalist costs from £2,595 (£2,076).

African Odyssey (RCL): From Nairobi to Mombasa, then by ship to Zanzibar, Madagascar, the island of Réunion, Durban, Mossel Bay and Cape Town. From £2,784 (£2,228).

Zimbabwe Panorama (CAR). Comprehensive 17-day journey including the Eastern Highlands, Great Zimbabwe and Victoria Falls, then safari to the Matobo Hills, Hwange National Park and Lake Kariba, £2,800 (£2,240).

Also camping safaris in Zimbabwe, Botswana and eight-day air safaris in southern Africa.

The Springbok covers the Transvaal, the Kruger National Park and the Durban beaches. The Karibuni Safari stays in lodges in romantic surroundings; the Mauritius seven-night break includes flights, food, drinks, watersports, horseriding and golf from £1,425 (£1,140).

THE AMERICAS

Alaskan Wonder (TKA). A 14-day journey to mountains, lakes, glaciers and fiords. From £701 (£561). Other tours include a 14-day journey from New York to major eastern cities and national parks, Amish country and the rural South. A ten-day California Adventure offers mountain biking, kayaking, sailing, white water rafting and horse riding. Frontier Canada spends 21 days travelling from Quebec to British Columbia.

Toronto short break (CKS): Flights plus four or more nights in five-star hotels, from £485 (£388).

Harbours of our Heritage (RCL). A 16-day round trip aboard the Royal Odyssey from New York to Maine, Halifax, Quebec, Montreal, Boston and Rhode Island, £2,735 (£2,188).

River cruise: St Louis to Memphis (DQS). A five-night journey, £520 (£416). Other cruises include Nashville to Cincinnati, Cincinnati to St Louis, a three-night Old South cruise and a seven-night cruise from St Louis to Chattanooga. Jungles and Markets (CKL). Through Panama, Costa Rica and Guatemala: 12 days, from £2,295 (£1,836). From Reef to Rainforest is a 15-day journey through Belize: Conquistadores, Incas & Islands spends 16 days discovering the Galapagos Islands and Peru. Other tours cover remote areas of South America and the 15-day Cuban Experience, exploring cities and countryside.

City breaks include Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro and Santiago, staying in five-star Sheraton hotels.

Cruise: Natural Treasures of Costa Rica and Panama (SEC). Through the Panama Canal, 11 days visiting the San Blas Islands, the Darien Region, Isla Coiba National Park and Manuel Antonio National Park.

India: magical land

[illegible]

Indian Experience (CKI). An eight-day tour to Delhi, Jaipur and the Taj Mahal. From £815 (£625). Other tours in India include a 17-day journey through the forts and palaces of Rajputana and a 13-day train journey across the vast Indian plains via Agra, Gwalior and Varanasi to Calcutta.

Sri Lanka: The Enchanted Isle, Royal Nepal and The Spirit of Tibet are among other tours to the region, which also take in Pakistan, Bhutan and culinary and cultural explorations.

Riding through princely India is a 15-day journey for the independent traveller, through Rajasthan and ending in the Lake Palace in Udaipur. From £2,595 (£2,076).

Botanical Tour of Bhutan (CKB). Escorted by a qualified botanist. From £2,555 (£2,044).

Short Break: Hong Kong (CKS). Four nights or more, from £1,055 (£844).

Mongolia: Sands of the Gobi (STE). An 11-day tour from Ulan Bator including a four-day safari in the Gobi Desert, from £2870 (£2,295). Other tours include an 11-day introductory tour of Mongolia, a nine-day Treasures of Uzbekistan tour to the Silk Road cities of Central Asia and a Central Asia: High Summer Pastures tour to the Fan Mountains, one of the world's last remaining mountain wilderness areas.

The Best of China, Japan & *The Orient* (RCL). These 17 and 18-day journeys take in Peking, Yantai, South Korea, Japan, Shanghai, Taipei and Hong Kong. From £2,434 (£1,947).

Cruise: *Asian Capitals & Vietnam* (ORL). Hong Kong, Bangkok, Singapore and Vietnam. From £2,250 (£1620). The Imperial China cruise begins with a pre-cruise stay in Beijing and ends with a stay in Hong Kong.

Ornate: St Petersburg

[illegible]

All New Zealand (APT). Comprehensive 18-day tour visiting glaciers, Mount Cook, Milford Sound, Christchurch and Wellington. Two nights in the Bay of Islands, with a cruise, £2,085 (£1,668). Western Australia: Last Frontier is a 22-day luxury tour from Perth to Darwin with many two-night stopovers and 47 meals included in the price. Highlights include Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort, the Ord River Scheme and Broome. £2,359 (£1,887). Other tours include Highlights of Australia, starting at Sydney or Cairns and covering a vast area from the Great Barrier Reef to Ayers Rock, Kuranda, the Outer Barrier Reef and Melbourne in 15 days.

Centre Highlights is a five-day tour taking in Ayers Rock, Uluru National Park, Watarrka National Park, Kings Canyon and Kings Creek cattle station, for £445 (£356).

Cruise: *Splendours of New Zealand* (ORL). A 12-day cruise/tour from the geothermal mud pools and spouting geezers of Rotorua to the towns of Napier, Dunedin and Christchurch and the glacier-carved fjords of Milford, Dusky and Doubtful Sounds. Includes a two-night stay in Auckland, £2,195 (£1,580).

Cruise: New Zealand and Australia, a 20-day tour that starts in Christchurch on New Zealand's South Island, cruises the intricate waterways of Marlborough Sounds and calls at Napier, Tauranga, Auckland and the Bay of Islands before heading for the Great Barrier Reef and ending with a three-night stay in Sydney. The Australia & The Java Sea cruise explores the islands of Indonesia where the lands are still ploughed by water buffalo and villages are ruled by tribal chiefs. Includes two days in Bali. From £2,795 (£2,012).

Idyllic beaches: East Africa

[illegible]

Splendours of Jordan (CKM). The ancient city of Petra, Kerak's Crusader castle, the mosaics of Madaba and the landscape of Wadi Rum, on a six-day tour of the desert kingdom, £855 (£684). There is also a four-day Short Break to Petra from £675 (£540). The Highlights of Syria tour begins in Damascus and continues through the desert to the oasis city of Palmyra, then on to the hilltop fortress of Crac des Chevaliers. Seven days: £1,045 (£836).

Jordan & Syria is a 13-day tour from Petra and the King's Highway to the oasis of Palmyra and the markets of Aleppo. From £1,595 (1,276).

Highlights of Lebanon, a five-day tour, includes the ports of Tripoli and Byblos, the 2,000-year-old Cedar Trees and the Roman city of Baalbeck. From £695 (£556).

Grand Tour of the *Middle East* is a 15-day journey focusing on the contrasting countries of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Highlights include the rose-red city of Petra, Crac des Chevaliers, the ancient city of Byblos and Lebanon's cedar forests. From £1,795 (£1,436).

Highlights of Israel: eight days visiting Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Masada, Jericho, the Sea of Galilee, Nazareth and Tel Aviv. From £1,095 (£876).

Splendours of the Near East: a 12-day journey concentrating on Jordan and Israel. Highlights include Kerak's Crusader castle, Mount Nebo, Petra, Bethlehem, Tiberias on the shores of the Galilee and Jerusalem. From £1,495 (£1,196).

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EUROPE

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BROCHURE KEY

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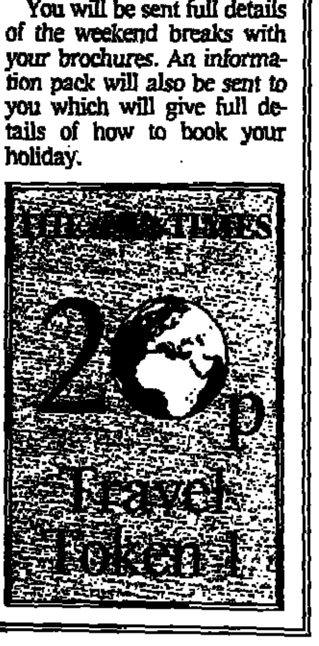

هكذا من الاصل

David Butler resigned from the Oxford and Cambridge University Club and found himself a celebrity

My moment of fame

Let the women join

David Butler explains why he is leaving the

David Butler's open letter of resignation last month

On January 11 *The Times* published an open letter from an unimportant don, resigning from a relatively unimportant institution. It seemed only a small pebble, dropped in a small pond. *But that was to underestimate* the power of *The Times* and the appeal of the issue at stake.

Over the last ten days, a strange, if very transitory, prominence has been thrust upon me, simply because I ventured to say publicly that, even to a moderate, middle-of-the-road character, it was distasteful to continue association with an Oxford and Cambridge Club that excluded almost half the members of those universities — and with a club where those who ran it seemed to take no notice of a three-to-one expression of views by its members.

Telephone messages have flooded in, together with requests to broadcast at home and overseas: casual *conversations and, still more, a host* of letters, show that the article struck a reverberating chord.

It is the letters that are most interesting. A few are from friends — some of them long-lost — but more are from strangers. Some send the letters of resignation which they wrote privately (and unacknowledged) years ago. These are often far more eloquent than anything I wrote. Some ask for advice on how to carry on the fight. Some simply express indignation that their club can exclude 40 per *cent of Oxbridge* entrants. Some tell tales of domestic pressure to resign or not to join. One suggests that the Harvard and Princeton Clubs of New York (both mixed) should *withdraw reciprocal* facilities. A number offer to put me up for membership of the Reform Club or the National Liberal Club, proudly pointing out that both these institutions have *succeeded in going mixed without* any trouble (and even asserting that they are better run with women on the committee).

A few quotations may give the flavour:

☐ "Unless the committee gives an immediate and clear lead towards the more positive and equitable treatment of women, I shall not be renewing my membership."

☐ "I have no objection to men having their own club but I do object to their using my university's name."

☐ "I was insulted to be invited to join the club as a second-class citizen merely because of my gender."

☐ [After a threat to resign] "The *discomfort is exacerbated by the fact* that I use the club quite a bit for entertaining, usually foreign guests who look around the coffee-room and ask about the position of women. It adds embarrassment to shame to describe a situation that is no longer a charmingly curious English eccentricity, but indefensibly unfair."

☐ [From a distinguished old lady] "I have been living with this sort of nonsense since I came up to Girton in 1921. At the age of 91 I wonder which end of the 20th century this is."

Only one of the letters sent directly to me has been hostile — *and only a handful* of those so far selected for publication in *The Times*'s letter columns. (Alas! In the last few days the Garrick issue has intruded — a quite different *matter since the Garrick* is not based on a mixed university and the Garrick members voted heavily to stay single).

If I were indeed leading a campaign, I would have *wished for more public adversaries*, since it is plain that the three-to-one majority of members who wish the club to go *mixed* would be fortified by remarks such as these:

☐ "I want to drink in peace. I don't wish to be surrounded by headmistresses and female dons. Do you? . . . I do wish women did not try to run everything. They should restrict that to their families and homes."

☐ "The average male member of the Oxford and Cambridge Club will have nowhere to lay his head with a guarantee of angst-ridden [*sic*] good fellowship if the screaming horde have their way."

One of the oddest features of the *affair has been the silence of the* club. I have received nothing in reply to my private or my public letter to the chairman and, far more important, the wider membership who *have written to the club or to the* press have had no explanation of the club's attitude.

I resigned on the central issue of an Oxford and Cambridge Club denying membership to so large a proportion of those at the universi*ties. But the trigger that provoked* both the timing and the nature of my going was the democratic deficit in the running of the club. Despite an overwhelming voicing of opinion by the members the general committee hid behind the constitutional rules they had devised. Fifteen months *passed without any positive move to* give recognition to the popular will. It is true that legally the rules cannot be changed before 1998. *But there* could have been some gesture of goodwill, some statement of intent.

I have resigned and have no standing to do more. It is possible that legal action or pressure from the university authorities, embarrassed at the use of their names and their emblems, will have an effect. But much the best solution lies in spontaneous action from within the club and its members. It is an institution worth saving.

Poor people, poor diets

Health guidelines are no good to those who can't afford the food

NIGELLA LAWSON

Every time I see one of those concerned, caring expensive government "messages" on television, purring to us about the benefits of wholemeal bread, about the benisons of fresh fruit and veg, about the wisdom of changing from full-fat milk to skimmed milk, I feel the bile rise.

This is not because I object to the foods proposed or even to the idea itself of "healthy" eating, although some evangelical *healthy eaters can be a* bit much to take. Unlike Julia Child, who is something of the American *Elizabeth David* (only without, among other things, her wiry style), I have not taken a public vow to eat daily a bowlful of delicious, artery-clogging fat on point of principle. You may be relieved to hear that I do not subscribe to the view that the anti-fat, pro-lean dietary recommendations are yet another *insidious example of* the creeping PC that is apparently taking over *all* aspects of our life.

What I object to in these government broadcasts is the hypocrisy. With each nudging broadcast I am reminded of the insulting idiocy of spending millions on telling people to eat brown rather than white bread, instead of directing those funds to those who actually don't have anything to eat, or whose simple need is for sustenance rather than nutritional guidance.

I felt the same way when I had the builders in some time ago and the council sent some man around to check whether the *environmental health* strictures were being obeyed. I understand the principle, but how can the number of doors, say, between lavatory and kitchen be deemed so crucial to cleanliness, godliness and straightforward decency when at the same time it is perfectly all right to leave people sleeping in the streets, with no loo *and no kitchen, never mind* two doors between them? Everything's being dealt with back to front.

But as I say, I do not necessarily disapprove of the healthy-eating message itself. When I've found myself sitting next to doctors at dinner, they always insist that in disease the crucial factors are genes, *and then diet. I am persuaded* that there is indeed sense in eating food that might just minimise one's chances of having a heart attack, developing cancer or high blood pressure — or, rather, avoiding food that shortens the odds. Within reason, of course: a fat-free life is an unimaginable one; moreover, all forms of extremism are suspect, and possibly unhealthy. I believe in the carrot and stick-of-chocolate approach.

The difficulty is that it's not always possible to isolate diet from other factors. A report *has just been published* by the Health Education Authority which seems to indicate that ethnic minorities have not absorbed the healthy-eating message as readily as the rest of the population. Now, it may well be that many of these *people don't speak* English as a first language and don't therefore understand precisely *what they are being told about* salads and granary bread. But it seems more likely that the major factor in the worse health, lighter babies, more stillborn deliveries and infant deaths among these groups is poverty. Surely if we concentrate on dietary rather than economic analysis of the facts we are doing nothing, really, to better their lot or their health.

Cultural issues enter here, too. Many West Indian women, for example, might not welcome being told by the doctor that they should lose weight. Thinness is not considered as desirable by their culture as it is, obsessively, *by ours. The* suggestion of weight loss cannot but smack of cultural imperialism. And too often, as all women know, the distinction between what is too fat for fashionable clothes and what is too fat for health is confused.

But for all of us there is something bullyingly *intrusive about being* told how much we should weigh. Even if doctors feel they have our interests, and possible longevity, at heart, bossing us about diet seems guaranteed to offend. It is not just the anti-welfare Right that objects to a nanny state admonishing us about saturated fats. There are as many who *see the health guidelines as* class war by other means. Out go chips and burgers, pies and anything in batter, in come grilled chicken and salad. Desist from lard and reach for the olive oil instead.

Those wary of Tony Blair would no doubt count among their concerns the sort of food they presume he and his *family eat from their scrubbed* pine Islingtonian table. In the same way, John Major's celebrated pitstop in the Little Chef was the best, most immediate way of establishing his bona fides. Never mind Clause Four, this is what people really care about. It isn't just armies that march on their stomachs.

How long is a string quartet?

Fifty years, in the Borodin's case.

Joanna Pitman *attends the jamboree* in Moscow for the famous ensemble

THOMAS MULLER

Four men and their bows: for years the Soviet authorities restricted the quartet's travel, earnings and repertoire

You could have heard a *samovar drip, the* expectant silence was so tense. Two thousand Russian men, women and children perched on the edges of their seats, dozens crammed three deep on the balcony, necks craned, eyes peeled, hearts thumping with anticipation. The door swung open on to the stage of the gargan*tuan hall of the Moscow* Conservatoire, heralding the appearance of four of the brightest stars in Russia's musical firmament.

At last four gentlemen shuffled out onto the stage, television cameras swooped in and the crowd came to life with a great yell of delight. For the visitor unversed in the ways of Russian superstar *adoration, this seemed* an extraordinary display of appreciation for a string quartet.

But then the Borodin Quartet is no ordinary quartet. It has been in existence for 50 years, and is probably the longest performing chamber ensemble in the world. The players are honoured by musicologists all over the world, *they inspire the critics to* constant gushings and last week they had their chests decorated with medals from Boris Yeltsin.

Individually, a more unlikely group of idols it would be hard to imagine. The senior man is the cellist Valentin Berlinsky, 70 years old, white-haired and small but perky and much given to planting his lips on the hands of attractive ladies.

Then comes the viola player, Dmitri Shebalin, a whisker away from his 70th birthday and a man with an uncanny resemblance to the late Robert Maxwell, thinning brilliantined hair and the stocky build and expression of a scrum-half anticipating a hard afternoon in the mud. Next comes Andrei Abramenkov, the second violin, a Moscow man also on the wrong side of 60, bespectacled and with a beard that looks like the work of an enthusiastic topiarist and a full head of hair that is more *salt than pepper. Finally, the* baby of the group, Mikhail Kopelman, first violin, a *Ukrainian Bob Monkhouse* with jet black eyebrows and a dazzling smile, himself closing in on his own half century.

While each is a superb string player in his own right, the Borodins have always performed collectively as a quartet. Their history of survival under Soviet control and their new lease of life under capitalism as well as the quality of their sound have turned *them into a Russian living* national treasure.

Thursday night marked their 50th anniversary concert and performance number four thousand and something. The quartet came together in 1945, originally as the quartet of the National Philharmonic and went through several variations on *membership. Mstislav Rostropovich* was the cellist for the first two weeks before Berlinsky took over and Shebalin joined in 1953, the year that the quartet *was* renamed after Alexander Borodin.

Following the defection to the West of one violinist and the illness of the other, the quartet recruited Kopelman and Abramenkov in the early 1970s and then *went* underground for two years, restudying and reworking their repertoire. *While* Soviet restrictions limited their oversees travel, forced them to hand over more than half of their official earnings and prevented them from *playing* work by composers such as Schoenberg, they endeared *themselves to the state* authorities by concentrating on a repertoire of Russian music, particularly Shostakovich.

To mark this 50th jubilee, Moscow's finest tramped through the snow in minus 14C in their racoon-skin coats and rabbit-skin hats to listen and pay *their respects. Rostropovich* was there to perform the Schubert quintet in C Major with them, and dozens of luminaries of the Russian musical scene sat mesmerised in the front rows, leaping to their feet afterwards along *with hundreds of women and* children offering flowers, to deliver speeches and eulogies *that extended the programme* by a good two hours.

> The gala dinner was hosted by a dark figure from underworld circles

There was paean of praise from the mayor of Moscow, a performance of chamber music by fantastically talented children from the Russian Academy of Music, ceremonial handouts of embroidered capes, endless bunches of roses, carved wooden ducks, bottles of cognac, even highly sought-after bunches of ba*nanas. And then* when the dancers had finished their Argentinian knife dance and the stand-up comics had done their slap-stick mimicry and the fifteenth speech had been delivered, the quartet, plus Rostropovich, bobbing sycophants and attendant hangers-on, repaired to a hotel for a "gala *dinner". This was hosted* by a dark and silky party in immaculate evening dress who, I was reliably informed, ranks high in underworld circles and whose confidence runs to having his satanic face emblazened on every one of the *copious number* of bottles of champagne that were popped open that night.

"It still feels as if it's 1945 to me," Berlinsky said. Seventy *years old and close to tears he* may have been, but Berlinsky needs to preserve all his energies for *the* many more concerts to come. The Borodin Quartet is scheduled to do an overseas anniversary 1995 tour that would make even *musicians 30 years younger* blanch. They will ricochet around Europe for the next 12 *months playing* 95 concerts in 62 cities. Their first stop is Britain (they have a particular affection for Aldeburgh) and they will be performing in Abbotsholme, Rugby, Birmingham and at the Wigmore Hall, London, on Wednesday.

As the Director of the Russian Academy of Music put it last Thursday (to a miserable ripple of laughter): "If Yeltsin and his deputy and the speaker of the house and his deputy were to form such a harmonious quartet, our lives would be heaven on earth."

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The days when ulcer sufferers had to subsist on junket, rice pudding and mashed potato are past, says **Dr Thomas Stuttaford**

How to avoid saying: 'I can't eat that'

DIGBY ANDERSON, *The Spectator's* food writer, is not the only person to have noticed the emphasis given in obituaries on Peter Cook to his love of spicy food. Patients, too, have been asking if a visit to the local curry house will reactivate a long-dormant, scarred ulcer and start a fatal bleed.

Peter Cook's obituaries also mention his love of alcohol, possibly a more important factor than curried mutton as alcohol can cause a fatal gastro-intestinal haemorrhage in other ways than in exacerbating a gastric or duodenal ulcer. If a liver becomes cirrhotic (scarred and shrunken) there is often consequent obstruction to the venous circulation in the oesophagus (gullet) which results in the formation of varicose veins. These oesophageal varices have a nasty tendency to rupture, as happened to John Le Mesurier, the sergeant in *Dad's Army* and a self-confessed heavy drinker. Sometimes the subsequent bleed proves impossible to stop and in consequence the patient dies.

Nobody who enjoys Indian food will deny the power of a vindaloo to cause indigestion which may well, like too much brandy, exacerbate an inflamed or ulcerated stomach or duodenum. The good news is that emphasis is now put on curing the underlying cause of the trouble and less on treating the symptoms by prescribing a long-term bland or milky diet.

Treatment will focus on reducing gastric acidity, and, where appropriate, eradicating Helicobacter pylori, the organism found in many cases of peptic ulceration. The days of proton pump inhibitors, H2 blockers and antibiotic eradication are with us, while those of junkets, rice puddings and potatoes mashed with skimmed milk, are past.

Diets are a bore to the patient, especially when entertaining or being entertained, and to restaurateurs who see their food left uneaten. However, they are still essential in the treatment of many conditions ranging from diabetes and renal failure to migraine, gluten sensitivity and obesity.

The tendency is for patients with a special need, for instance a narrowed oesophagus which makes swallowing difficult, to ask their hostess if she would forgive them if they only had soup and mushy vegetables. Likewise when somebody on a diet goes to a restaurant, special fare may be difficult to prepare and cause dismay in the kitchen.

An advisory service for those on medically-approved diets has been established in the Chelsea area of London. It plans gourmet menus, with a compatible wine, that fulfil the patient's prescribed diet but restores their culinary excitement and doesn't leave them socially isolated, obviously eating shepherd's pie while everybody else enjoys fillet.

The dietician, after consultation with the patient's own doctor, will not only plan a varied daily menu to eat at home but will advise on dinner parties so that the patient's needs are met without other guests noticing that they are eating a carefully chosen diet. Jane Clarke, who runs the service, also liaises with restaurants and airways to ensure that dishes compatible with the diet are available and served with minimal fuss.

She says that her aim is to provide a diet which is both stimulating and medically sound. "Why always, for instance, give somebody who finds swallowing difficult soup when salmon mousse slips down just as easily.

● *Jane Clarke, 35 Walpole Street, Chelsea, London SW3 (0171-823 5323).*

From a log cabin to a triumph across the world

Robert Rhodes James on the dramatic story of a man who made a pharmaceutical fortune

One of the great medicines of the world
Zovirax

Henry Wellcome, aged 53, and a advertisement for one of the company's progressive drugs to combat Aids

The extraordinary saga of Henry Solomon Wellcome continues nearly 60 years after his death in 1936. Another chapter unfolded yesterday. The little company that he and Silas Burroughs created in 1880 is now valued at nearly £9 billion and, if Glaxo succeeds in its proposed takeover, will be part of the most formidable pharmaceutical company in the world. His is a story of genuine drama and ultimate triumph on a quite astonishing scale.

He was born in real poverty in his grandfather's log cabin in bleak northern Wisconsin in 1853. His parents struggled to make a living out of 14 acres of wretchedly poor soil until, in 1860, the family undertook the arduous and dangerous trek in covered wagons to the small town of Garden City, Minnesota, where Henry Wellcome's uncle was a respected doctor. His father became an Adventist itinerant minister; the Wellcomes were the poorest family in Garden City, and the boy Henry, who left school at 13, worked in his uncle's drugstore.

By then he had been through a searing experience — the bloody Sioux uprising of 1862. The boy Wellcome made lead bullets and helped his uncle and an English doctor called William Worrall Mayo in tending the wounded. It was Mayo who persuaded Wellcome to leave the backwater of Garden City and to move with him to Rochester, Minnesota, and who urged him to go to pharmaceutical college. He could only afford to do so by working long hours in drug shops, but after he had graduated from the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy his advance had begun. He became a determined and highly successful drugs salesman, and might possibly have remained one if his then friend Silas Mainville Burroughs, who had founded a small company in London to sell American drugs, had not persuaded him to come to Britain in 1880 and become his partner. He arrived, aged 27, with little money but a fierce ambition.

The firm of Burroughs Wellcome and Company was tiny, but the two young Americans had a trump card — machines for making compressed tablets in considerable quantities and of good quality. Under Wellcome's leadership in England, while Burroughs toured the world for business and establishing outlets in the Empire, the growing firm went from distributing the drugs and preparations of American companies to manufacturing its own. Despite clashes of personality and a profound difference of approach, they prospered.

Burroughs died suddenly in 1895, and, after a bitter fight with Burroughs' widow, Wellcome was in supreme control, and began to build and staff his own laboratories. He used his social and professional contacts in the medical profession to find and employ able researchers and scholars and give them not only the best facilities but the encouragement to undertake pure research.

One of these young men was a future Nobel prizewinner — Henry Dale — and most of the others became Fellows of the Royal Society and reached considerable eminence. The laboratories were of such quality that they were the first to be given licences for animal research. They were the first to produce an effective anti-diphtheria toxin; and the first in Britain to produce insulin in quantity. When the American Government was facing near disaster in the building of the Panama Canal it was to Wellcome that they turned to resolve the crisis of malaria that was decimating the workforce. In the First World War he donated all the resources of his company and laboratories to the British Government. His knighthood, in 1932, was a very belated recognition of his incomparable services to his adoptive country. (He became a British citizen in 1910.)

Wellcome had no interest in buying a mansion — he never owned a house in his life — or racehorses, or other appurtenances of wealth, but used his money for the benefit of science. If his laboratories produced drugs or discoveries that had a commercial application, this was to be regarded as a bonus, but was not their purpose. The principle that Wellcome initiated, that all profits were to be ploughed back into research, was followed by his successors.

He laid grandiose plans for the future after his death. His fortune was to be dedicated to medical research and medical history. Unhappily, he had taken such bad legal advice that his Trustees found themselves not dealing with great wealth — Wellcome left the then enormous sum of over £3 million — but with vast death duties. Also, the company itself went through a bad period, so that the income from the shares was almost negligible. In the 20 years after Wellcome's death his Trustees disbursed only £1 million.

It was not until the company, in the United States as well as in Britain, recovered its strong position that the situation was transformed, to the point that last year the Trust invested over £200 million in medical research in Britain — almost as much as the Medical Research Council.

Of course, other companies have contributed greatly to the medical and pharmaceutical revolutions of our century, but they have done so by following Wellcome's pioneering lead in investing money into pure research and financing the best intellects and the most promising fields.

On a bleak March morning last year my friend Dr Nicholas Muller, the head of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, drove me through the snow from Madison to the small village of Almond, Wisconsin, in search of the Wellcome farm. Dr Muller politely ridiculed the possibility of finding it, his confidence not increased by the fact that I was guiding him with the benefit of a road map of 1860. But — there it was, almost unchanged, on the same 14 acres, still being farmed. And, as I stood in that tiny stone house, I felt, at last, close to Henry Solomon Wellcome.

● *Sir Robert Rhodes James's* Henry Wellcome — A Biography *was published in November 1994 by Hodder & Stoughton (£25).*

Can this be a scalpel I see inside me?

Instruments left inside patients may not be discovered for years

Despite the tightest controls, every year some former patients discover they have been carrying an unwanted souvenir of their hospital stay.

Swabs are the commonest items to disappear, but scalpels, scissors and other collectables also go, concealed behind a lobe of liver or coil of intestine as a patient is being sewn up after surgery.

Three-week-old Benjamin Jones's surprised mother, who discovered a hypodermic needle sticking from his back while she was changing his nappy, may be relieved that it did not go undetected longer. Some patients discover only after years or decades that they have been carrying around a bit of surgical hardware of which they have been entirely unaware.

The body is adept at dealing with foreign bodies, either expelling them or sealing them off in a capsule of tissue so that they cause no further problems. When doctors notice an item left behind after treatment, it is often a tricky clinical decision whether to do nothing or to risk further damage by trying to retrieve it.

In a case settled last year, Hazel McMillan, a nurse, won £17,000 damages after part of a needle from an intravenous drip snapped off and was left embedded in her forearm while she was undergoing a hysterectomy.

Doctors at North Middlesex Hospital in Edmonton, London, attempted to remove the needle under local anaesthetic, but were unable to locate it because it had travelled several inches along her vein. She was later returned to theatre and the piece was removed under general anaesthetic.

But the damage had been done. After two years, during which Ms McMillan suffered continuing pain in her wrist, it emerged that nerves in her forearm had been damaged by the first abortive attempt to retrieve the missing needle. Ms McMillan decided to sue New River Health Authority and the case was settled out of court.

To ensure that patients do not leave theatre with excess baggage, hospital surgical teams are required to follow strict protocols. All instruments and swabs must be counted before the operation and again before the patient is sewn up.

Dr Susan O'Driscoll of the Medical Defence Union (MDU), the doctors' defence organisation, said: "Sometimes, the second count is done as the patient is being sewn up, but it is obviously easier to look for a missing item if the patient is still open.

"Occasionally, the count may be wrong or, if there is a life-threatening haemorrhage, the procedures may go by the board." Last year, the MDU was called in to examine theatre procedures at Doncaster Royal Infirmary after a heart patient died during surgery to remove swabs that had been left inside him during an earlier operation.

Benjamin Jones, who had a needle in his back, and parents

The man underwent the first operation in June, but a month later he required urgent surgery to remove the swabs which were discovered when he developed an infection. He suffered a heart attack during the second operation and died on the operating table.

The ill effects of an abandoned swab may not be felt for years. Last September, surgeons removed a 2in square of gauze from 16-year-old Gavin Crockford's abdomen, where it had caused a stomach abscess. Gavin had endured 16 months of pain but had apparently been harbouring the gauze since undergoing surgery at Southampton General Hospital when he was ten.

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Weighing the cost of a smart heart

The latest pacemakers allow their recipients to lead more active lives — at a price. **Roger Dobson** reports

At 103, Charles Fletcher has a new electronic lease of life

CHARLES Fletcher is 103, and last September was given a new electronic lease of life. He had been suffering from complete heart block, one of the commonest heart defects of the aged, which meant that his heart beat was slow and irregular. He is now looking forward to another decade, a belief based on a treasured letter from his cardiologist saying that his pacemaker has an expected life of 10 years. "If it keeps going so can I," he said.

A former studio designer, Mr Fletcher retired 35 years ago, in the year when the first pacemakers came into use. He is an extreme example of the growing number of elderly people being given simple pacemakers. For him the device has improved quality of life quite considerably by keeping his heart beating at the same pace all the time, whether he is resting or walking.

But a more sophisticated and more expensive device is also available and some cardiologists believe it should be used for all or most patients, whatever their age. They consider that the basic pacemaker is now out of date, although it is still being implanted in seven out of 10 patients, most of them elderly. There also appear to be wide differences in policy between centres around the UK.

Terry Sermon is 58 and has been fitted with a "smart" pacemaker. It costs £3,000 — £1,700 more than the simple variety. It can vary its pace according to what he is doing, responding to physical activity such as swimming or horse riding by making his heart beat faster.

So should the elderly be content to receive the cheaper, simple pacemakers, while younger patients get the more advanced equipment?

Douglas Skehan, consultant cardiologist at Leicester Glenfield Hospital, has set out the main issues in a recent editorial in the *British Heart Journal*. "Pacing the elderly has become a controversial subject," he says. "Many patients are OK with the basic pacing, but it is likely that many elderly people who are paced in this way are not as well treated as they could be. Some cardiologists are frustrated by budget constraints and reluctantly apply an ageist policy to the selection of pacemaker."

David Cunningham, of the British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group, which represents the leading cardiologists involved in pacemaking, has studied information on 100,000 patients with pacemakers. Only a small proportion of elderly people are getting the smart pacemakers, he says.

He also found that in the private sector there has been a 55 per cent increase in smart pacemaker implants since 1990, compared to around 12 per cent in NHS hospitals. A smart pacemaker costs the NHS £333 a year for eight years for each patient, compared to £160 for a simple device. It is estimated that to provide all patients with smart devices would increase pacemaking costs by between 80 and 100 per cent.

MrSermon is one of the few people with personal experience of both types. He has been upgraded from a simple to a smart pacemaker. "The simple one was fine, but this lets me do so much more. I can now swim and go riding and hill walking. I play golf and my life has changed completely," he says.

A £1 million study coordinated by Dr Skehan will compare the performance of the two types of pacemaker and is expected to start shortly. "The Medical Research Council has been very supportive of the project and we are planning for 40 centres around the UK to take part," he said.

"We hope to show clearly whether there are benefits from smart pacing in elderly people so that we can move to a fully non-ageist policy in the 21st century."

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After Rose, a prickly dilemma

Lawrence Freedman on a belated UN response in Bosnia

Last Friday, the Defence Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, confirmed that the British contingent in Bosnia is *about to be reinforced with* Chinook, Lynx and Gazelle helicopters. This can be seen as backing for Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith as he takes over from Sir Michael Rose as commander of the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) in Bosnia. It was described as support for the ceasefire brokered by Jimmy Carter last month, enabling the speedy *movement of troops to monitor* the confrontation lines. It may turn out to be a necessary preparation for withdrawal.

Experience suggests that when the parties in Bosnia accept ceasefires (of which *there have been more than* 30 already), they are looking for a breathing space before the next round of fighting, rather than an opportunity for a peace *settlement. The current* ceasefire covers the harsher winter months, when military activity would have slowed anyway. If the lull is being used by the belligerents to prepare for a more hectic *spring, then it also makes* sense for the UN to do so.

But the ceasefire may not last that long. It has never really taken hold around Bihac, the enclave which saw *major setbacks for* both the Bosnian Muslims and the UN late last year. Bihac has become unusually sensitive, because at this point *the new conflict* within Bosnia and the old conflict within Croatia become intertwined. Unless there is a political breakthrough, a return to violence will be marked by new calls for an end to the arms embargo and withdrawal of the UN force.

Unprofor is immobilised by *being required to serve three* incompatible goals. The first, which is the only one for which the 23,000 blue-helmeted troops are all equipped, is the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The second is to protect the "*safe areas*" occupied largely by the Muslim population and besieged by Serb forces. The third aim is to look after itself.

Inevitably, the third aim tends to dominate the others, *especially as UN forces on the* ground are far weaker than those of the Serbs. Not only is Unprofor useless for putting pressure on the Serbs, but it is also vulnerable to retaliation should the Serbs be angered by *alternative forms of pressure*, such as air strikes. For the same reason, it is unable to deliver humanitarian assistance in many parts of Bosnia *without Serb* consent.

The hopelessness of this position was brutally exposed last year, as the vulnerability of Unprofor was demonstrated through petty *humiliations*, hostage-taking and occasionally deadly sniper fire. The Serbs successfully exploited the UN's embarrassment so as to encourage the Contact Group of Britain, France, *Germany, Russia and the* United States to rewrite the peace plan rejected last July.

The Contact Group appears prepared to contemplate *encouraging the surrender of the* Muslim enclaves in the East in return for expanding the areas held by the Government around Sarajevo. This appals the Bosnian Government, *because of the massive "ethnic* cleansing" entailed, while leaving the Serbs demanding more. And Croatia has also been unsettled, for such a deal would create a precedent which the Serbs of Krajina, who seized 30 per cent of Croatia in 1991, would dearly love to follow. This prospect has increased the pressure on President Tudjman in Zagreb *to ensure that Krajina remains* part of Croatia.

So Tudjman has told the UN that he does not intend to renew the mandate of the Unprofor force in Croatia when it expires on March 31. It *may be that this is no more* than a ploy, and that he is expecting political concessions on the status of Krajina in return for renewing the *mandate. But he has left himself* only slight room for manoeuvre, and as the deadline approaches a number of UN contributors may start to withdraw their troops. Already, the Krajinan and Bosnian Serbs *have made common cause* around Bihac, and a more generalised war will make it extremely hard for President Milosevic of Serbia to exercise continuing restraint.

The removal of the UN from Croatia thus adds to the pressure on the Bosnian force. Withdrawal from Bosnia is still being studied by the UN and Nato. It is now recognised to be an extremely hazardous operation. Nato planners have nightmares about *their columns being blocked* by crowds of protesting Muslim women and children, while being sniped at by Serbs. The problem of with*drawal eases if equipment,* such as the 8,000 Unprofor vehicles, is left behind. However, the Serbs have made clear that if there is any risk that this equipment could fall into Bosnian Army hands, *they will make life as difficult* as possible for the evacuating forces.

The UN force is *immobilised* by the need to serve three *different* goals

Every Unprofor initiative has been thwarted by a terrible manpower shortage. Now it may be that the only mission *for which there will be enough* forces will be the evacuation — when even the United States, unyielding up to now in its refusal to provide troops, claims to be prepared to employ *some* 25,000 marines. *At no time will Western firepower* have been more in evidence in Bosnia than at the moment of retreat.

Yet the advantages of con*siderable reinforcements now* would be much greater. They might allow the UN to regain some sort of influence on the ground, and could certainly be accompanied by a stronger stance in defence of the "safe areas". Perhaps as importantly, they would improve the prospects for an orderly evacuation should this become inevitable, by reducing the *vulnerability of individual* units. The old advice to those who find themselves in holes to stop digging is normally prudent. But from some holes *the only* escape requires more digging.

The tabloid investigations of my childhood friends are unjustified, writes Jack Straw

Do our schooldays deserve privacy?

Four journalists spent five days last week in pursuit of my past. The reference section of the Brentwood public library has, I am told, rarely seen such activity. Every back copy of *The Brentwoodian*, the *Brentwood School magazine, for the* period 1957-64 was scoured. An agreement between the reporters to pool resources and save time broke down — so my office was told — when one of them hid a key volume in another part of the Library ("I don't think he nicked it," we were told, "the security is too tight down there").

The object of all this inquiry was to find whether Straw had been a bully, and if so against whom.

It began exactly a week ago, at a conference organised by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, on "Safety in Schools". I delivered what was in*tended to be a thoughtful contribu*tion about what should be the Government's role in the personal safety of children.

Bullying is obviously a key issue in children's personal safety, and is thankfully much more the subject of public focus than ever before. When I got to a very prosaic reference to bullying in my written text, I decided to ad-lib some remarks about the different kinds of bullying which *children may encounter*.

It was not all bullying with a capital "B", or victims with a capital "V". It could take much less noticeable forms, the more insidious for that. I recalled that in my dormitory at school seven of us, over a period of *two years, picked on an eighth*, and made him miserable. In the end, he stopped boarding and became a dayboy. I had thought about this recently, and regretted it.

This kind of experience is hardly unusual, in day or boarding schools, *in the 1950s or the 1990s. What's* more, I must have made exactly the same observation on four or five occasions in the years from 1987 to 1992 when I was Labour's education spokesman, *and no journalist* had ever considered it worthy of report.

This time it was different. The two journalists present stopped me as I left, to ask for more particulars. I told them that I had heard from the person concerned some years ago, and *he had not expressed any hard* feelings. But I resolutely refused to name the man, or give any other details. By the time I got back to the office, the story had taken on a life of its own. "*Ashamed Jack Straw* admits he was a bully" wrote the London *Evening Standard*. The *Daily Mirror* asked me to write a piece about this experience — an invitation I accepted, since if I did not tell the story in my own words, it would be embroidered in others'.

Up to a point, all this could be de*scribed as fair game for someone in* the public eye. The quotations were accurate, and, as ever, the headlines were not the responsibility of those who put the story together. What is *bizarre, however*, and very worrying, is what subsequently happened to private citizens who were at school with me, either as teachers or fellow pupils. The school itself was bombarded with calls seeking confirmation of what I said. It was politely explained that *this was 37 years* ago, and no one could help.

Then began the "research" in the Brentwood public library. From the termly "house notes" and other records, *a long list of likely suspects* was put together, and all those who could be found in the phone book or on databases were contacted. What was I like at school, did all this happen, had I been a really big bully, or just made the whole thing up?

But it was worse than that. One man called me to say that his mother *had been phoned by someone* claiming to be me; another that his elderly great aunt had been called, while a third said that his mother, who was very poorly, had been contacted, and that *the message which she had then* left for her son was in such terms that he thought she had taken a turn for the worse.

For me, this has been no more than irritating; but for many of my former schoolfriends the incident has been an *upsetting and gratuitous intrusion*. But there has been illumination, too, about the extraordinary priorities of sections of the British press. *It was not as if there was some great* public scandal to uncover.

But there is a more serious consequence, which is the limiting of sensible public debate. Most people illustrate debates about the issues of the day by reference to their own experience. So should politicians. But how can we *now*, when such references lead to the kind of *gratuitous* intrusion that my school, my former fellow pupils, *elderly retired masters*, and even mothers and great aunts have *had to endure?* The result is that we shall have to close up, use detached language, theorise rather than speak from experience. And the result of that, if we give in to the pressure, will be that our politicians *will* appear yet more divorced from the real world of those in *whose name* we work.

A law of privacy would be hugely *complicated* and full *of* pitfalls. It would have to be offset by a defence of public interest, and it could, unless very carefully drafted and sensitively enforced, be used to cover up genuine public *scandals (as appears to be the* case in France). But I have scratched my head wondering what public interest was served by those four journalists in Brentwood public library, and whether they could not have been more fruitfully employed. *I have yet to find an answer.*

The author is Shadow Home Secretary.

The way we thieve now

A generation ago, private property was respected, and no one would have contemplated stealing from the poor

Bernard Levin

When I moved into the W1 area of London, very many years ago, my regular shopping street, just round the corner, was (it still is) Marylebone High Street, with its *appendix, Thayer Street. In those* days, the thoroughfare was not only a great shopping experience, but one of the most elegant and beautiful streets in central London. This was not simply a matter of "posh" — shops which were so expensive that only the *rich could buy from them* — because there were very many places in the street for people with modest means but who found that the goods they bought were of the finest quality, from the wonderful grocer to the wonderful fishmonger. (Strictly speaking, the latter was not on the High Street, but he was only two paces round the corner, and incidentally he is still there and still selling the finest fish in London.) The friendly grocer, of course, has long vanished; there are no such things *anywhere now unless you want to go* to Fortnum's — the supermarkets have done for the grocers, alas.

Eheu fugaces. Over the years, the street has deteriorated; the great *map-seller* rolled up his charts, the great butcher with his unforgettable name — "Wainwright and Daughter" — packed his carving knife, the great men's outfitters is still there, but half the size it used to be. Perhaps the finest place in the street was the *glorious emporium (I can't call it a* shop) which was run by a lady who surrounded herself with beautiful things made of silver and wood and pottery and everything that can be made by man's (and woman's) hand, and who sold that beauty for amaz*ingly small sums. I remember — how* could I have forgotten? — the day she told me that she would have to give up the shop, because the lease had run out and a new one would cost five times the old one. I still bathe in *Schadenfreude* every time I pass the site. It has been derelict for some *five* years, I am happy to say.

From bad to worse, the High Street crumbled further. At one point, I counted 15 derelict shop premises, *and some of the weirdest hopefuls* took shops on the street. I remember one that sold nothing but nuts — nuts of every kind but only nuts: I think it lasted about three weeks. And then the street got even worse: some of the shopkeepers wouldn't have been allowed in the street in its glory days, and few there were to take a shop in a dying street. (One turned back the tide: Villandry — I suppose you could call him a grocer — is expensive, but *sells the very finest stuffs, and* nothing else.)

But lately, I have been sniffing a different breeze. One of the derelict shops has been taken for a display of *what the High Street and its surrounds* might become. And what *might they become? The plan in the* window is detailed; it looks like Arcadia, and if it ever came to fruition, it would be what the High Street was when I first moved in. (I had had a clue without *realising* it: the High Street Christmas decorations, slung *across the street, were not only* beautiful but singularly tasteful; unmatched by the vulgar, shoddy stuff that Regent Street provided, our High Street led the town.)

I peered more closely at that plan, and I regret to say that I murmured "I'll believe it when I see it". Yet even the pessimist in me cannot deny that one or two shops that might be harbingers of spring have been newly seen. Could it be that our High Street *is going to have a new life?* Ah, well, I'll believe it when I see it. (That may be when the harmless winos leave the High Street.)

But I have to tell you now that the *above is not the matter in hand — my* hand, anyway. And I regret to have to say that the real matter in hand shines no credit upon our street: indeed, for any ordinary person, it would be difficult to beat for baseness. Let me explain.

When those sadly derelict shops — as I said, sometimes they numbered by more than a dozen — were crumbling away, some sensible and valuable *suggestions* as to their use were made: these were, principally, that the empty shops should be leased (I presume at a peppercorn rent) to such noble causes as Oxfam, Sue *Ryder, the Imperial Cancer Research* Fund, and many more. These shoplets take in a wide variety of useful items from donors, which are then sold for their good — their very good — causes. There have been many such over the last few years in our High Street: at present we have Oxfam and the Cancer Research Fund. Sometimes, however, the shops are closed, and when that is so, donors have been in the sensible habit of *leaving their gifts* on the doorstep, for the good and generous *souls* to take in, when they open for business.

You get the picture? No, you don't. You *think* you do, but you don't. And when I tell you what the picture is, you won't even believe it. For not long ago, I *was walking through the High* Street and paused at the Oxfam shop; it was evening, and the Oxfam staff had long gone home. But some other people had not. I looked at the door of the Oxfam shop, and *I saw*, pasted on the inside of the glass door with the *text outwards*, a *printed police leaflet*, clearly for wide use, which ran: "Police Warning. Donations are being stolen from the doorways of this shop. Please take care of your *property*."

I strolled on, in what I think is correctly called a brown study, but I did stroll on. It was only a few paces further when I saw, again neatly printed and pasted on the inside of the glass — it was the Cancer Research Fund *shop* — This statement: "Due to the increased numbers of forged banknotes in this area, we are checking all notes presented in this shop. We apologise to all our customers for any inconvenience."

I haven't finished. There was another police leaflet being distributed just before Christmas. This is how it ran: "Many of you will be flocking to the shopping areas of Marylebone *to spend your hard earned money on* 'prezzies'. However, you will not be the only ones shopping in the West-End. Extra 'shifts' of thieves will be drafted in to relieve you of a few items. They will come because some of you will be careless with your cheque books, leave your handbags unattended, leave your shopping on the back seat of the car and show off how much money you have in your wallet. Most of us will enjoy our Christmas — a few of us won't. Please take care and be aware."

Let us go back first to the doorways of the Oxfam and Cancer Research Fund. No one can be ignorant of what those organisations do and why they do it. Yet people will steal the dona*tions (themselves hardly of much* worth) from the thresholds of those *shops, and other people will present* forged notes wherewith they will pay for what they are in reality stealing. Then let us go back to the Christmas warning which tells us that "Extra 'shifts' of thieves will be drafted in to relieve you of a few items."

Auberon Waugh has said — it is practically a mantra — that only a few years ago he would leave his *house in the country unattended* and unlocked, without a thought or a care, and found it left as it was. He has just been burgled, in that very house, for the third time. And you could fill the Albert Hall from floor to ceiling with people telling the very same story, as they jangle their padlocks and compare floodlights.

So what does it mean? What is the meaning of the thefts and swindles played upon generous people who do nothing but help those who need help? And what is the meaning of the *country-house burglaries* which are rife now, but which — though there were thieves aplenty — hardly existed a very few decades ago?

You will be greatly dismayed, but probably not astonished, when I say I don't know. And I don't think anyone *knows either. But I think I know that* the Oxfam and Cancer Research thievings *could* not have happened before, say, 1960, and the country-house burglaries *did* not start to happen before roughly the same time. If I am right, what has changed — and changed substantially in that time? I don't know the answer to that question, either. Very sorry.

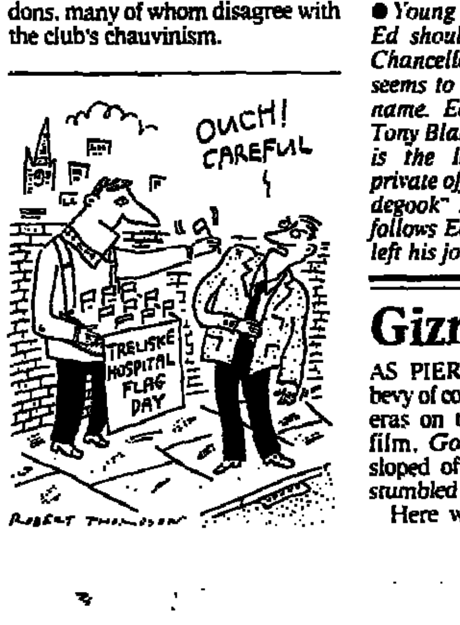
I have had so enormous a number of letters from and about New Zealand that it is impossible for me to answer them individually, as I would wish. I ask your pardon, and hope that this collective note will suffice.

Up in arms

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY is seeking legal advice about withdrawing permission to use its coat of arms from the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, because of the club's refusal to admit women as full members. The Cambridge arms depicts a cross between four lions passant. It is used extensively on crockery, headed paper and decorative motifs throughout the club, in combination with Oxford's coat of arms.

A Cambridge insider tells me that pressure for reform from dons and graduates is so great that the university authorities feel they must take a stand. And they believe they can best respond by trying to bar the club from using the university device. As the club rules stand, female graduates can join as associate members, but they are not allowed to walk on the marble staircase, use the library or the members' bar. *Varsity*, the Cambridge University newspaper, reports this week that student unions have condemned the club in the strongest terms for its continued refusal to accept women.

Gordon Buchanan, the club secretary was unavailable for comment yesterday. The legal challenge is far from cut and dried, and there is no indication yet that Oxford would follow Cambridge in any move to remove the university emblems. Developments will, however, be followed closely by Oxford dons, many of whom disagree with the club's chauvinism.



THE TIMES

DIARY

● *Young left-wing politicos called Ed should apply to the Shadow Chancellor's office. Gordon Brown seems to have a penchant for the name. Ed Miliband, brother of Tony Blair's policy adviser, David, is the latest appointee to his private office. He joins Ed "gobbledegook" Balls, a researcher, and follows Ed Richards, who recently left his job as assistant.*

Gizmo man

AS PIERCE BROSNAN and his bevy of co-stars pouted for the cameras on the set of the new Bond film, *Goldeneye*, on Sunday, I sloped off behind the scenes and stumbled into Q's workshop.

Here was Mick Finlayson, the film's senior special effects technician, charged with teaching Des*mond Llewellyn, who plays Q, how* to use his widgets. Not as easy as it sounds, he explained, tinkering with an inkpen which detonates bombs in the new movie. "Desmond has enormous hands. He has difficulty with fiddly things."

Palace, please

NIGEL HAWTHORNE is looking for a home fit for a king. Widely tipped for an Oscar for his performance as George III in *The Madness of King George*, he has put his 16th-century Grade II listed manor *on the market* so he can move into something with a bit more space.

With the film already a hit in America and due to open over here soon, he is asking £385,000 for Radwell Grange near Baldock in Hertfordshire and is hunting for an even grander property in the area.

Hawthorne as George

Instrumental

TEENAGE violinist Vanessa-Mae Nicholson, who lost her £200,000 fiddle last week to burglars, is being showered with offers of a replacement. London's leading violin dealer, J & A Beare, slipped her a *trial Guadagnini (similar to the* 1761 instrument she lost) only to have it returned as unsuitable. Now Alan Todd, a technician at Cambridge University's engineering department, is offering to step into the breach.

"I've got a violin *made in 1762* — only a year out — which I was given as part payment *of a debt*," he says. "It's been valued at £20,000, but I can't play it so I'm prepared to offer it to her for a good sum."

And should Vanessa-Mae reject this offer, Beare's are already searching out alternatives. "We've lined up four or five more fiddles which might suit her. She's coming in to try them out on Thursday."

Vanessa-Mae Nicholson at play: my other violin's a . . .

Globe trotter

THE LYRICIST *Sir Tim Rice* doesn't allow much to interfere with his cricket. His appearance at the Golden Globe awards in the shadow of Hugh Grant was touch-and-go — because the Test match in Adelaide looms on Thursday. He managed to squeeze in a little business in New York, then popped over on *Sunday to LA to pick up the* prize he shared with Elton John for the best song in a movie (for his work in *The Lion King*). And yesterday he shot off to Australia.

"It's important to get your priorities right," he explains. "I wanted to get *to Adelaide in time to give the* England team some advice."

P·H·S

DAYS OF GROWTH

The Bank of England has proved its critics wrong

The British economy is now the strongest in Europe and arguably the healthiest in the entire industrialised world. This observation, which would have been dismissed as preposterous a year ago, now represents the simplest truth. The *annus mirabilis* for the British economy was given official confirmation yesterday with the publication of the first official estimates of Gross Domestic Product in 1994. These statistics showed the economy growing by 4 per cent between the fourth quarters of 1993 and 1994, Britain's strongest performance since 1988.

Although such percentages may not, on their own, create much popular excitement, the tangible social benefit of strong economic growth was demonstrated last week in the December employment figures. These showed unemployment falling by 54,000 in December alone and by nearly half a million since the worst point of the recession. They also showed that the reduction in unemployment was not just some statistical illusion or bureaucratic sleight of hand: vacancies reported to employment offices are rising rapidly and 127,000 new full-time jobs have been created in the last quarter. If this rate of progress could be maintained, unemployment could be reduced within a year or so to levels last seen in the prosperous late-1980s.

Yet the City, far from welcoming the strong economic figures, has redoubled its calls for higher interest rates. A growth rate of 4 per cent is clearly "unsustainable", since the long-term growth rate of the British economy has always been below 2.5 per cent. Unsustainable growth, say the gloomy pundits, is bound to produce inflation. It must be urgently choked off.

This is needlessly alarmist. Any recovery from recession must of necessity be a period of "unsustainable" growth. For if recovery is to reduce unemployment at all, it must create new jobs more quickly than the rate of population growth: such growth is, by definition, unsustainable. The object of economic policy should be to keep growth at an unsustainable pace for long enough to reach acceptable levels of unemployment. Only then should the economy decelerate to its long-term trend growth rate, of between 2 and 2.5 per cent.

The Bank and the Treasury cannot, of course, tune the economy with absolute precision. But they can do better if they aim for broadly sensible objectives, such as rapid economic growth when unemployment is high. This is, in fact, exactly what the authorities have done in the past two years, with excellent results. In the two years since October 1992, when John Major declared that the Government's objective was not just to control inflation, but also to promote recovery, the judgments made by the Bank and the Treasury have proved impressive — and better than those made by most outside commentators, ourselves included. Eddie George, the Bank's Governor, has proved right in his view that the economy would continue to grow strongly, despite rising taxes, and right in his decision to start cautiously raising interest rates last autumn.

But the question now is whether the Bank should keep tightening policy until it completely crushes the recovery and reduces growth to a "sustainable" rate of below 2.5 per cent. Given the nervousness in the world economy, the slackening of consumer demand and the weakness of investment within Britain, any further tightening of monetary policy might well be premature. After his successful performance in the last year or so, Mr George will deserve the benefit of the doubt if he decides on another small rise in interest rates. But before he goes further than that, he should wait for more evidence of just how robust the recovery remains, both at home and abroad.

THE CLEGG AFFAIR

A legal reform would prevent future furores

The case of Private Lee Clegg, the paratrooper convicted of murder in 1993, has aroused passions. A group of senior veterans has promised to press his case until he is exonerated and released; others threaten to boycott the VE-Day celebrations if justice is not done. As colonel-in-chief of Private Clegg's regiment, the Prince of Wales is said to be taking an interest. MPs called yesterday for an emergency debate. Seldom in legal history is there such a strong lobby for the release of an individual.

The strength of feeling aroused by the Lords' rejection of Private Clegg's appeal last week is easy to comprehend. His crime was almost certainly the product of adrenaline rather than malicious intent. In September 1990, he was part of a patrol in Northern Ireland which fired on a speeding car in Belfast. Three of the bullets which Private Clegg fired were judged to be legitimate, shot in self-defence or the defence of a fellow soldier. The courts ruled, however, that the fourth was fired after the car had gone 50 feet past the roadblock. This, it seems, was the bullet that killed 18-year-old Karen Reilly.

To some of his supporters Private Clegg is a victim of the law's failure to distinguish between military and civilian actions. In such a case, a soldier is judged to be no more than a "citizen armed in a certain manner". To many this does not square with the reality of patrol on the Belfast streets five years ago. Indeed, it would not be difficult to create a new offence applying to servicemen who kill unlawfully in the course of their duties. Yet the sternest opponent of such a change has long been the Army, which probably fears that a more general offence of unlawful military killing would encourage a greater number of prosecutions. Its senior officers also remain nervous of making soldiers even partially immune from civil jurisdiction.This is an enlightened position to adopt. From time to time, however, it produces hard cases such as Private Clegg's. On the evidence before the court, the case for conviction was clear. Yesterday the Clegg campaign claimed that new forensic evidence will show that he did not fire the lethal bullet. Sir Patrick Mayhew must therefore decide whether to review the case on the strength of their submission. The Northern Ireland Secretary now finds himself facing a quasi-judicial decision which will have serious political consequences.

Whatever he decides, the Government should not abdicate its responsibility to answer public fears about Private Clegg. First, it must be made clear that he is not, as he alleges, the victim of a conspiracy to appease nationalist feeling in the Province. The direction to prosecute was made in July 1991, long before the Downing Street declaration and the IRA ceasefire. Equally, it is absurd to suggest that the law lords have a vested interest in the politics of Ulster. Their decision was a sound reflection of the law. Sir Patrick should make clear that he is no more willing to treat Private Clegg as a hostage to the peace process than he is ready to release terrorist prisoners prematurely. In the eyes of the law, the paratrooper and the paramilitaries are all judged civilians.

Secondly, the Government should acknowledge the legal complexities which this case has revealed. A sensible reform would be to make it possible for courts to define excessive self-defence as manslaughter rather than murder. This would meet the Army's objection about the legal status of soldiers. It would also save the criminal justice system from future embarrassments which it can ill afford.

CALF TROUBLE

Mr Waldegrave has turned veal to his advantage

For a politician often criticised as being insensitive and a shade too clever for comfort, William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, has displayed admirable political dexterity in his handling of the latest debate on animal rights and wrongs. Confronted with revelations that calves from his own farm are exported to the Continent, where the crate-rearing and force-feeding on a liquid diet banned in Britain since 1990 are still widespread, Mr Waldegrave quickly divined the uses of adversity. He has argued that a review of the use of veal crates be brought forward from autumn 1997 to this year. He has also issued a strong plea for the banning of the method in all EU countries.

British sympathy for animals is increasingly becoming the basis for legislation. New rules which came into force yesterday in the UK make it a criminal offence for those transporting animals to divert from an approved journey plan, making the existing legislation on this point more readily enforceable. The strong pressure in Europe brought by the government to bear over veal-production was prompted to a great extent by the Shoreham protests.

The question of how humans treat animals is exerting a greater pull on our sensibilities, particularly among the middle-classes and the young. Some concerned citizens are acting in the humanist spirit of compassion. Other more radical activists claim that animals have "rights" akin to human ones. The alliance between them — occasionally reinforced by the violent and the bored — is likely to produce more Shorehams and Brightlingseas in the future.

Mr Waldegrave will never satisfy every protester. The RSPCA will continue to campaign for a unilateral ban on export of veal calves from Britain: the Minister is right to resist the superficial appeal of such a move, even though it would find much favour. To do otherwise would cancel our leverage with other countries when they seek to exempt themselves from agreed rules of co-operation.

The calves' plight points to one of the central dilemmas within the EU. On the one hand, the organisation is supposed to level agricultural structures in the member countries to encourage fair practice. On the other, it is intended to stimulate trade, which thrives on competitive advantage. Such an advantage exists in countries with a higher tolerance of cruelty to animals.

With veal production, there does, happily, seem to be a way out. An EU study has concluded that banning of the rearing of calves in crates would have no impact on the economies affected and the meat, albeit of a different quality, can still be produced without resort to such methods. But this is an exception rather than a rule in meat production, especially in the luxury market. Bitter battles over what end up when and how on the discerning plates of Europe lie ahead. Even nimble Mr Waldegrave may not find these so easy to divert.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Demands to free jailed paratrooper

From Mr Stanley J. Blenkinsop

Sir, Is there not a grave danger that Paratrooper Clegg (report, January 20; letter, January 21) will become a *de facto* political prisoner, on the grounds that any official moves to expedite his release from prison could be regarded as provocative by the Sinn Fein-IRA grouping in the peace talks?

Any such interference with the natural justice that this case so urgently demands must be utterly resisted by the British Government which has it in its power to order Paratrooper Clegg's immediate release.

As a journalist periodically working in Northern Ireland between 1969 and 1986, I repeatedly saw the almost superhuman restraint and forbearance shown by young soldiers like him on roadblock duty in the Province.

Yours sincerely,
STANLEY J. BLENKINSOP,
22 Roan Court,
Macclesfield, Cheshire.
January 21.

From Mr E. V. Byers, MC

Sir, The reason given for obtaining and maintaining the conviction of this unfortunate man on a charge of murder appears to be based on the fact that he used unreasonable force by firing on the escaping car after it had passed him and he was therefore no longer in any danger.

This can only have been true because the car happened to be carrying unarmed joyriders. It is a spurious reason because the car was all too likely to be carrying armed terrorists who would have excellent motives for attempting to crash through a roadblock manned by lethally equipped soldiers: no one but a foolhardy idiot would otherwise try it.

In such a case a probable result would have been that Private Clegg and his comrades would have had to sustain a burst of automatic fire when the vehicle was anything up to 50 yards past the checkpoint. Would he then have been charged with dereliction of duty for ceasing fire as the car went by?

Soldiers in tense situations seldom have time to think; they usually only have time to react. Private Clegg should not have been charged with anything at all: it would have been unreasonable even to castigate him for an error of judgment.

It is disgraceful and disgusting that this unfortunate soldier should have been used as political cannon fodder in such a heartless manner.

Yours faithfully,
E. V. BYERS,
Magnolia, Main Street,
Kinoulton, Nottingham.
January 22.

Defending British Gas

From Mr Grahame Dixon

Sir, For 38 years, up to the end of 1993, I was an employee of British Gas. I felt that I contributed not only to my own well-being but to that of the United Kingdom generally, and I think that view was shared by the majority of employees. There is no doubt, however, that the strains caused by privatisation have had a serious effect on morale.

The changes have resulted in massive job cuts, including my own. Yet I have nothing but praise for British Gas. It now generates profit in all corners of the world: the proportion from UK operations is reducing year on year. To have achieved this change with all the pressures of Government, Ofgas and the Monopolies Commission is incredible.

The man behind this achievement is Cedric Brown, the chief executive (interview, Business, January 13). Here is no money-grabber but an achiever. As a shareholder I hope he remains in office for some considerable time.

As for the showroom situation, it is sad for those employees involved to receive such letters as the one last December announcing cuts in jobs and pay. It can only, however, reflect reality. If nothing is done British Gas will have to sell the operation or close it down. Where will the jobs be then?

But do not blame British Gas for this: it is an inevitable outcome of privatisation.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAME DIXON,
104 Woodfield Avenue,
Staincliffe, Batley, West Yorkshire.

A foreign threat to our free speech?

From Mr D. H. Walton

Sir, This evening the 9pm BBC news carried an item about slave labour in Burma. If the new Private International Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill discussed by Antony Whitaker ("Stand up for free speech", and leading article, "Law from abroad", January 19) becomes law it will mean that in future such reports can be suppressed by the government of a foreign country, who will merely need to pass a law making it an offence to report the misdeeds of the government and then watch the British courts become an instrument of oppression for every nasty little dictator's regime.

Yours truly,
DAVID H. WALTON,
10 St Guthlac's Close, Crowland,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
January 19.

From Lord Brightman

Sir, Antony Whitaker argues that an aspect of the Private International Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill threatens our legal sovereignty, while your leading article states that "the Lord Chancellor is mistaken if he thinks this an uncontroversial measure to be hurried through Parliament on the nod".

A Special Public Bill Committee of the House of Lords, of which I am chairman, is currently taking evidence on the Bill, which has been circulated to a number of witnesses and their comments invited. Some 35 responses have been received, from a wide range of interests, and the committee has arranged six sessions of oral evidence. This is a treatment which Bills do not normally receive and is in place of the usual Lords committee stage.

This committee has power to amend the Bill, but must then pass its remaining stages in both Houses. It is composed of both lay peers and specialist lawyers and is drawn from all parties and from independent peers. The Government does not have a majority on the committee and, while we have not yet come to any conclusions, you can be sure that nothing will pass us "on the nod".

The House has established this procedure specifically to ensure that law reform Bills receive the kind of scrutiny for which your leader calls. Mr Whitaker is most welcome to submit written evidence to the committee no later than Friday, January 27.

Yours faithfully,
BRIGHTMAN,
House of Lords.
January 19.

From Mr R. G. Maling

Sir, May I take issue with a phrase in Mr Whitaker's otherwise well argued article, "virtually no restriction on Lord Mackay's 'ability' to legislate".

Mr Whitaker is referring to Lord Mackay's "powers". If the noble Lord had more ability it is reasonable to assume that his powers would be exercised with greater awareness of the forthcoming problems highlighted in the article.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. MALING,
Windfall, Butlers Cross,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Church and lottery

From the Reverend Peter Kinley

Sir, If, as you say in your leader ("It must be the lottery", January 14), the Church of England condemns the National Lottery, but also intends to apply for a share of the lottery funds, then, it seems to me, you are correct in pointing out its hypocrisy.

However, your appeal to Scripture to justify the lottery is unsound, for the references cited have nothing to do with gambling in the usual sense of the word. Furthermore, to dismiss the subject of the lottery, as you do, as "morally trivial" betrays a serious lack of understanding of the issues involved.

The question is not whether there are more important moral issues, but whether gambling itself is a moral practice. Something which depends for its success on avarice can hardly be regarded as morally acceptable. If you doubt the incentive of greed, then you must explain the statement of Camelot that when the prize is rolledover, ticket sales increase significantly.

There is clear evidence from the US that lottery participation there has led to other forms of gambling. It is a cause of great regret and shame that our Government has seen fit to promote something which is morally unjustifiable and potentially destructive of human contentment.

Yours sincerely,
PETER KINLEY,
The Manse, Langley Upper Green,
Saffron Walden, Essex.
January 16.

From the Chairman of the National Council on Gambling

Sir, Your leading article is unnecessarily denigratory about the views of the House of Bishops.

At present, there is massive stimulation for demand for gambling and the promotion of the view that, rather than being a form of entertainment, it is a likely way of becoming rich. In this setting, although the controlling legislation prohibits children from purchasing Lottery tickets, much of the publicity appears to be directed towards them. Thus, children have been involved in the television commercials for the Lottery, and many children take part in the live audience at the time of the draw, which, in any case, occurs before the 9pm watershed.

Clearly, these are matters of great concern which need urgent attention.

Yours faithfully,
E. MORAN, *Chairman*,
The National Council on Gambling,
8 All Saints Street, N1.

Opera House plans

From Mrs E. G. Isles

Sir, I join with Mr Jeremy Isaacs (letter, January 11) in wishing to see the Royal Opera House presenting opera and ballet to the highest standards.

I should like to support his intention to revitalise listed buildings whilst repairing and sustaining the infrastructure of a valuable public service.

However, I cannot accept that, in order to do so, he intends to demolish the only remaining 17th-century coffee house in London (Tom's Coffee House, in Russell Street) and three fifths of the Floral Hall (Grade II* — not Grade I as Mr Isaacs claims) which was originally built as a promenade area for patrons of the Royal Opera House.

Demolition seems a strange way to save our heritage from disrepair and dereliction. Mr Isaacs's proposals have drawn opprobrium from the Royal Fine Art Commission, the Civic Trust ("the results are disappointing and run the risk of ultimately being seen, at best, as mediocre": Martin Bradshaw), the Georgian Group, the Covent Garden Community Association, and most of the members of the public who have viewed his plans.

Perhaps the Royal Opera House's case for funding from the National Lottery is not altogether convincing.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH ISLES,
Flat 1, 41 Short's Gardens, WC2.

Gulf War tests

From Wing Commander Bill Coker

Sir, Your report (January 17) on the alleged Gulf War syndrome gives a mistaken impression of the state of our investigations and might suggest that I have a dismissive attitude to unfortunate sufferers of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS). I do not.

The report from *Soldier* magazine which you cite was researched some months ago and presented a snapshot of the position last autumn. We have since moved on: 250 cases have been referred, of which 77 have been seen and a diagnosis has been reached.

The data so far suggest there is no single major illness being complained of by Gulf veterans, and certainly no evidence for the existence of a separate Gulf War syndrome. CFS is a positive diagnosis in only 12 per cent of the cases.

The other diagnoses are varied but are of well recognised medical conditions not peculiar to Gulf War service.

Yours faithfully,
BILL COKER
(Consultant physician),
Princess Alexandra's
Royal Air Force Hospital,
Wroughton, Swindon, Wiltshire.
January 18.

Listed buildings

From Mr Bernard Kaukas, ARIBA

Sir, According to the Listed Buildings Act 1990 (letters, January 3, 6, 11, 20): "No person shall execute or cause to be executed any works of demolition of a listed building or its alteration or extension in any manner which would affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest, *unless the works are authorised*" (my italics).

The purport of those last five words is simply to ensure that the owner of the building is obliged to ask for and receive consent for any work he wishes to carry out. He is not, unless he wishes to incur prosecution, the arbiter as to whether or not the work "affects its character". He will discover that a listed building is not his castle; it is merely his liability.

A word of warning to the innocent owner of a listed building who is told that he has carried out work without permission is also necessary. The local planning authority may invite him to "regularise the situation" or to "attempt" to regularise the situation by submitting a retrospective planning application; but such apparently reassuring phrases still leave the authority free to refuse consent and to issue an enforcement notice requiring the alleged faults to be remedied within a certain period, on pain of financial penalties.

It is generally prudent, therefore, in cases where the owner considers that any apparent breach of control regulations may not be upheld by the inspector in an appeal, not to submit a retrospective application but to wait to see whether an enforcement notice is served which can be appealed against.

The Secretary of State for Environment has warned local authorities that enforcement notices should be issued "only where planning reasons clearly warrant such action". Thus they must exercise care in borderline cases.

The inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State to hear appeals are, on the whole, experienced and sensible men and women. They are well able to spot the difference between the ambitions of a greedy developer, the presumptions of an over-zealous planning authority, and the concern of a puzzled householder who is very upset at what he considers to be unfair treatment.

The overriding injunction is to ask for permission. One can always appeal against it, if it is refused; but in the interim no offence has been committed.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KAUKAS,
13 Lynwood Road, Ealing, W5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Wary welcome for age of Ophiuchus

From Dr Patrick Moore, FRAS

Sir, May I put the astrological record straight, please. I cannot understand why we are hearing all this nonsense about a new zodiacal sign (report, January 21). The facts have been known for many centuries, and there is nothing new in this. The constellation patterns are meaningless, since a constellation is made up of chance alignments of stars at very different distances from us; there is no real connection between them.

We happen to use the patterns given by the Greeks. If we had followed, say, the Egyptian patterns we would have had a Cat and a Hippopotamus instead of a Ram and a Bull. We can make up what patterns we like; they mean nothing.

The ecliptic — the projection of the Earth's orbit on the sky — passes through 13 of the constellations accepted by the International Astronomical Union: the 12 usually regarded as zodiacal, and Ophiuchus, which spreads down across the ecliptic between Scorpius and Sagittarius. But again, this is merely because we have made up these patterns, and in any case the maps of the sky we now use have been unchanged for a very long time.

So I repeat that this is "old hat": nothing new in it, and of course astrology is in any case the most obvious rubbish.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK MOORE,
Farthings,
West Street, Selsey, Sussex.
January 21.

From Dr Leslie A. Hill

Sir, It should surely be easy to discover whether astrology is true or not. All the researchers would have to do is find out in what percentage of cases the forecasts of the "expert" astrologers came true.

For astrology to be genuine, the answer should work out at 100 per cent; but if the percentage corresponded only to what one would expect from random success, it would mean that astrology was a fake.

Yours sincerely,
LESLIE HILL,
La Prairie, St Mary, Jersey, CI.
January 22.

'Sleaze' and subsidy

From Commander R. N. L. Welby RN (retd)

Sir, It is to be hoped that Lord Nolan, in his investigation into standards of public life (report, January 20), will look at the bribes given by the Government to get the votes they wanted to approve giving our fishermen's livelihood to the Spaniards (report, January 19).

In effect the payment to our fishing industry is a subsidy to the Spanish one to enable it to keep fishing. A bizarre use of our taxpayers' money!

If condemnation of this Government's achievements "at the heart of Europe" were needed, surely its inability to protect either our fishermen's industry or our calves from sadistic farming abroad furnishes adequate proof.

Yours etc,
R. N. L. WELBY,
The Lawn, Dipford,
Trull, Taunton, Somerset.

Salami tactics

From Mr George Thomas

Sir, The letter from Mr Howell (January 17), who works for an environmental services department, with a title as pedantic as his thinking, said it all. With professional pride, he assures Mr Pugh (letter, January 13) that he could not buy 1¼ oz of sausage because he is now protected by an EC directive that establishes a "minimum load" for retail weighing machines.

Of course, Mr Howell, weighing discrepancies are proportionately greater for small loads, but the actual size of the errors will be small enough to be irrelevant to anyone but the EC official.

What is his solution?Why — that the retailer should buy a better weighing machine. Thus the consumer will be able to buy small quantities — but of course at the higher price needed to offset the retailer's expensive new equipment.

Large companies have just started deserting the Tories (report, January 17). Small businessmen deserted them a long time ago, as much as anything because after all this time they still allow us to be plagued by pernickety know-alls and their silly EC directives.

Yours faithfully,
G. THOMAS,
17 Campden Hill Square, W8.

Hard to stomach?

From Miss Christine E. Avery

Sir, In a local shop I have just seen a sign on a food-shelf which said "Recommended for Burns Night" (a week from today, January 25). Behind the sign were several haggis. The labels on the haggis said "use by 23rd January".

Yours etc,
CHRISTINE E. AVERY,
27 Guildford Road West,
Farnborough, Hampshire.
January 18.

صكنا من الاجل

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
January 23: The Governor-General designate of Canada and Madame Leblanc have arrived at the House.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
January 23: Princess Alexandra, President, this morning visited the Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond, Surrey.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Logistic Corps, will attend a dinner at The Princess Royal Barracks Blackdown, Deepcut, at 7.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as *Patron of the Notting Hill Housing* Trust, will open John Kennedy Lodge, 73 Mildmay Street, N1, at 3.00.

Birthdays today

Mr Eric Ashton, rugby league coach, 60; Miss Nora Beloff, author, 76; Mr Harry Brett, former general secretary, *Prison* Governors Association, 48; Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Denison-Smith, 53; Mr Neil Diamond, singer and actor, 50; Mr Bamber Gascoigne, author and broadcaster, 60; Mr Peter Laister, company *director, 66; Mr M.J. Le* May, banker, 37; Dr Desmond Morris, zoologist, writer and broadcaster, 67; Lord Justice Murray, 72; Dr Ian Oliver, Chief Constable, Grampian, 55; Lord Savile, 76; Dr Jane Somerville, *cardiologist, 62; the Most Rev J.A.* Ward, Archbishop of Cardiff, 66; Air Commodore Sir Archie Winskill, former Captain of The Queen's Flight, 78.

Professor Paul Turner

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Paul Turner, CBE, will take place at 4pm on Monday, February 27, in the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-The-Great, West Smithfield, London, EC1.

Inner Temple

His Honour Judge John Gower, QC, Roger Toulson, QC, Thomas Shields, QC, Mark Havelock-Allan, QC, Simon Brown, and Jonathan Acton Davis have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Gray's Inn

Franz Joseph Muller, QC, Stephen Robert Silber, QC, David Torrance Donaldson, QC, and *Michael* Christopher Campbell Hart, QC, have been elected Masters of the Bench of Gray's Inn.

The Hon Mr Justice Alastair Nicholson, the Right Hon Mr Justice Michael Hardie Boys, the *Hon Sir Michael Nicholson and* Sir Mark Weinberg have been elected Honorary Masters of the Bench of Gray's Inn.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Sir John Whitehead was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. *Mrs* Elizabeth Cresswell *presided.*

Appointment

Mr Peter Harborne to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic in succession to Mr Michael Bates who will be moving to another appointment in the Diplomatic Service.

New president

Sir Philip Jones, Chairman of Total, has been elected president of the Oil Industries Club.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Hadrian, Roman emperor 117-138, Italica, Spain, 76AD; Sir John Vanbrugh, dramatist and architect, London, baptised this day, 1664; William Congreve, dramatist, Bardsey, Yorkshire, 1670; Frederick II the Great, King of Prussia 1740-86, Berlin, 1712; Pierre de Beaumarchais, dramatist, Paris, 1732; Charles James Fox, statesman, London, 1749; Muzio Clementi, pianist and composer, *Rome, 1752; Ernst Theodor* Wilhelm Hoffmann, writer and composer, Könisberg, Germany, 1776; Sir Edwin Chadwick, physician and social reformer, Longsight, Lancashire, 1800; Sir Thomas Blamey, field marshal, Wagga-Wagga, New South Wales, 1884; Keith Douglas, poet, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, 1920.

DEATHS: James Ralph, writer, London, 1762; Adam Black, publisher and politician, Edinburgh, 1874; Lord Randolph Churchill, statesman, London, 1895; Margaret Hungerford, novelist, *Bandon, Cork, 1897; Edward Mac*Dowell, composer, New York, 1908; Amadeo Modigliani, painter and sculptor, Paris, 1920; Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister 1940-45 and 1951-55, London, 1965.

King Henry III married Eleanor of Provence, 1236.

Conscription was introduced in Britain, 1916.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.S. Clark
and Miss F.C. Hill
The engagement is announced between Giles Sebastian, elder son of Dr and Mrs Justin Clark, of *Branksome* Park, Poole, Dorset, and Franchesca Cecelia, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs H.A.W. Hill, of Hamsell Lake House, Eridge, Tunbridge Wells.

Mr L.J.F. Heasman
and Miss J.M.A. Goldsworth
The engagement is announced between Laurence, son of Mr James Heasman, of Exeter, and *Mrs Valerie Heasman, of* the Isle of Wight, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Goldsworth, of Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex.

Mr J.R. Johnsen
and Dr B.A. Boswell
The engagement is announced between *Julian, son of Mr and* Mrs Richard Johnsen, of Shalden, Hampshire, and Bridgit, daughter of the late Mr Robert Boswell and of Mrs Boswell, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr C.W. Wickham
and Miss A.M. Thomson
The engagement is announced between Christopher William, son of His Honour Judge Wickham and *Mrs William Wickham,* of Birkenhead, and Anne Margaret, daughter of the late Mr William (Kai) Thomson and of Mrs Thomson, of New Plymouth, New Zealand.

The marriage will take place in *New Zealand on December 16,* 1995. Present address: Jalan Blitar 7, Mentang, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia.

Luncheons

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hogg, QC, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

HM Government
Mr Alastair Goodlad, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of the Permanent Secretary of the Singapore *Ministry of Foreign Affairs.*

Cardiff Business Club
The Right Hon John Redwood, Secretary of State for Wales, was the Guest Speaker at a luncheon given by the Cardiff Business Club at the Cardiff Marriott Hotel, on *Monday, January 23, when he* delivered an address entitled "The State of the Nation". Mr Brian K. Thomas, Chairman of the Cardiff Business Club, presided.

American Chamber of Commerce (UK)
Mr Michael Pickard, Chairman of London Docklands Development Corporation, was the guest and speaker at a luncheon of the American Chamber of Commerce (UK) held yesterday at the London Marriott Hotel. Sir Brian Goswell, president, was in the chair.

Licensing Executives Society
Mr Ian Harvey, Chief Executive of British Technology Group, was the speaker at the annual luncheon of the Licensing Executives Society Britain and Ireland held at the Savoy Hotel on Thursday, January 19. Mr David Stanley, president, was in the chair. Sir Alastair Pilkington, FRS, honorary president, was among the guests.

MARCY MENDELSON

Patrick Cheney of West London with a Victorian Valentine card he bought for his wife at Phillips, Bayswater, yesterday. Although only a handful of bidders attended the auction the 40 lots fetched more than £3,000. Few made more than their estimate apart from the final lot, a collection of Victorian Valentine and Christmas cards, which went for £420 against an estimate of £150-£250

Latest wills

Mr John **Lemon-Burton**, of Albourne, Hassocks, West Sussex, a founder member and president of the Bugatti Owners' Club, left estate valued at £577,947 net.

Margaret Joan **Challis**, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, former Headmistress of Queen Anne's, Caversham, Berkshire, left estate *valued at £347,189 net*

She left her effects and half the residue to personal legatees, and half the residue as to £8,000 to Queen Anne's School, Caversham, *£6,000 to St Wilfrid's Hospice,* Chichester, £5,000 to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, £1,000 each to Christ Church, Cheltenham, and Cheltenham Ladies College, and half the balance to the Gloucestershire Macmillan Cancer Service, and one tenth of the balance each to the Friends of Tewkesbury Abbey, Save the Children Fund, the RNLI, Salvation Army and National Trust.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Mr Thomas Allenby **Bath**, of Offord Darcy, Cambridgeshire £602,378

Angela Mary **Blenkinsop**, of Gateshead, Tyne & Wear *£919,856*

Miss Audrey **Broadhead**, of Saighton, Chester £544,290

Mr Cyril Edwin **Campin**, of Bath, Avon £539,228

Mrs Bridget Paula **Carter**, of Fowey, Cornwall £1,035,199

Mr Alexander Eady **Cochrane**, of Wimborne, Dorset £535,128

Mr Roger Brian **Cottam**, of *Leicester £1,091,337*

Mrs Dorothy Muriel **Eveleigh**, of Lingfield, Surrey £504,924

Mr William John **Foster**, *of Bromley, Kent* £504,037

Mr John Glyn **Foulkes**, of Denbigh, Clwyd £916,539

Mr Joseph Rosling **Hall**, of East Grinstead, West Sussex £536,148

Mr Bert Lane **Higgs**, of Market Harborough, Leicestershire £578,264

Mr Robert **Hipkiss**, of Hagley, Worcestershire £647,576

Mr Denis Valentine Eliot **Howard**, of London SW3 .... £1,231,690

Dr Ralph Alfred **Hyman**, of *Cockfosters*, Hertfordshire £812,255

Mr David Colin **McGregor**, of Faringdon, Oxfordshire £767,675

Mr James Whittington **Landon**, of West Chiltington, Sussex £619,193

Mr Geoffrey Parker **Lathe**, of Penn, West Midlands £776,482

Mrs Bettie **May**, of London NW6 .... £1,043,574

Mr Frederic Horace **Mocatta**, of *Eastbourne, East Sussex £914,916*

Anne Margaret **Parton**, of Cookham, Berkshire £974,449

Mrs Marjorie Hannah Sarah Varley **Bardsley-Powell**, of Leyburn, North Yorkshire £812,484

Mrs Willa Mae **Rolt**, of Chalfont St Giles, Bucks £814,185

Mrs Enid Susie **Smith**, of Minstead, Hampshire £871,995

Mr Alan Douglas **Stoddart**, of Crowcombe, Somerset £654,137

Mr Eric Anthony **Taylor**, of Ongar, Essex £834,192

Mr Gordon Alan **Taylor**, of Cuckfield, West Sussex £1,055,003

Mr Albert Frederick **Willby**, of Bickley, *Kent* £814,156

Archaeology

Doubts over date of early American site

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SERIOUS doubt has been cast on the antiquity of South America's most controversial archaeological site. After visiting a Brazilian cave, a group of American specialists have said that they cannot accept the early occupation date claimed by its French excavators.

The Pedra Furada rockshelter in northeast Brazil has been hailed for a decade as the final proof that modern humans entered the New World far back in the Ice Age. More than fifty radiocarbon *dates from the deep deposits* at the base of a steep cliff suggest occupation as early as 48,000 years ago.

Because the prehistory of other areas around the Pacific rim, notably Australia, has also been pushed back to similarly early dates (with recent claims that premodern hominids, perhaps *Homo erectus*, were present in Japan an omen of future developments), the Pedra Furada dates have been tentatively accepted by many scholars. *They seemed to end a period* of research in which the holy grail of pre-Pleistocene occupation in the Americas was forever receding from archaeologists' grasp.

Such early sites have been sought for more than a century, ever since the antiquity of humanity was established in Europe. Although some, such as the Meadowcroft Rockshelter in Pennsylvania, have proved resistant to doubt, the handful of even plausible sites dating to before 12,000 years ago in the entire continent contrasts dramatically with the thousands of discoveries in the Old World.

Pedra Furada, excavated between 1978 and 1988 by the *French* archaeologist Niède Guidon, seemed to answer those questions: there was a *long sequence of deposits* containing stone tools and hearths, *and charcoal from* the latter yielded radiocarbon dates in good stratigraphic order, reaching back from 6,000 years ago at the top of the sequence to 48,000 years ago at the base.

No similar sites have been found, however, leaving Pedra *Furada "sticking out like a* sore thumb", in the words of one expert in the field. Now three American *specialists in* early sites, including the excavator of Meadowcroft, James M. Adovasio, have examined the evidence and found it unconvincing. Writing in *Antiquity*, Dr Adovasio, together with Dr Tom D. Dillehay and Dr David J. Meltzer, concludes that "we are sceptical of the claims for a Pleistocene human presence at Pedra Furada. We are not saying that the features at Pedra Furada *are* natural, but the site geology and hydrology makes this a very likely alternative explanation".

In essence, the team accepts the validity of the carbon-dating process, but does not believe that the burnt material results from human activity. They suggest that natural fires are more likely, and note that the early "tools" look like naturally-flaked rock. After 10,000 years ago, however, both the tools and the hearths do seem to be the result of human occupation.

If their sceptical view is widely accepted, as seems likely, this will leave only a few New World sites dating to even the end of the Ice Age. Studies based on language groupings and human teeth in both eastern Asia and the Americas support the view that the first human probably entered America *through* Alaska between 20,000 and 15,000 years ago, or even later.

Source: Antiquity 68: 695-714.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Hilary Johnson, Chaplain, St George's Hospital, Tooting: to be *also* Honorary Assistant *Priest,* St *Mary,* Wimbledon (Southwark).

The Rev John Nightingale, Diocesan Mission Adviser and Priest-in-charge, Norton (Coventry): to be Vicar, St Giles, Rowley Regis (Birmingham).

The Rev Christopher Pearson, Assistant Curate, St Mary, Newington: to be Assistant Curate, St Peter, Streatham (Southwark).

The Rev Bryan West, Honorary Curate, St George, Gravesend (Rochester): to be Honorary Curate, All Saints, Hatcham (Southwark).

The *Rev Robert Widdowson*, Rector, Ashfordby and Priest-in-charge, Ab Kettleby group: to be *also* Priest in charge, Old Dalby and Nether Broughton (Leicester)

Resignations and *retirements*

The Rev William Thomas, Priest-in-charge, Foxton (Ely): *to retire as from July 2.*

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

No one is worthy of me who cares more for father or mother than me; no one is worthy of me who cares more for son or daughter.
Mathew 10 : 37 (REB)

BIRTHS

ADAMS - On 9th January 1995 in Toronto, Canada, to Kate (née Perryman) and Michael, a son, Felix Perryman.

ARTHUR - On January 13th, to Margaret (née Robigo) and Hugh, a daughter, Ellen, a sister to Joseph and Max.

AYLES - On 21st January 1995, to Caroline (née Baxter) and Nicholas, a daughter, India Mary-Anne Aydua.

BEKHOR - On January 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Sheryl (née Ozrin) and Gary, a gorgeous son, Joshua.

BOATH - Nicky (née Prichard) and Richard, on January 14th, for Jack and Freddie, a beautiful little sister, Milly Amanda.

BOLITHO - On 19th January, to Annabel (née Shaw Baker) and Alverne, a daughter, Alexandra Cordelia.

BOOTH - On January 16th 1995, to Niccola (née Lowe) and Paul, two daughters, Julia Cristobel and Rosalind Leonora.

BROADBENT - On January 19th at Kingston Hospital, to Joan Hansen and Crispin, a son, Daniel Hansen Broadbent.

CHELTON - On 21st January, to Sarah (née Russell) and Hugo, a son, Toby Hugo Foley.

CLARKE - On January 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Prunella (née Townsend-Green) and Peter, a daughter, Tabitha Laura Alice.

CUNNINGHAM - On January 20th 1995, in Perth, Western Australia, to Melissa (née Foster) and Edward, a son, Thomas Henry, a brother for James.

DUNCAN - Augustus James at The Portland Hospital on January 17th, a beautiful and healthy son to Maeve and James.

FRY - On 12th January 1995, to Anne (née MacInnes) and John, a daughter, Harriet Sarah, a sister for Rebecca, Charlie and Emily.

GOWER - On January 22nd 1995 at Jessop Hospital, Sheffield, to Jill (née Mortimer) and Keith, a daughter, Jessica Claire.

HAYMAN - On January 19th, in Cambridge, to Joanna and Christopher, a son, Oliver Christopher, a brother for Daniel.

HERRINGTON - On 13th January 1995 to Charlotte (née Peel Yates) and Paul, a daughter Rosemary Constance.

HILLEARY - On 11th January, to Duncan and Sophie, a (10lbs) daughter, Mairi Rose MacLeod.

LAIRD - On Thursday 19th January, in Edinburgh, to Stephanie (née Earle) and Sam (Simon), a daughter, Freya Helen Michaela.

BIRTHS

LANDMAN - On January 17th, to Anna Louise (née Baynham) and Rory, a son, Joseph Buchanan, a brother for Samuel and Benjamin.

MILLN - To Charlotte and Christopher on January 23rd, a daughter.

MOODY - On Saturday 21st January, to Jill and Phil, a daughter, Helena Kate, a sister for Marcus and Nicholas.

PELLY - On 6th January 1995, in Singapore, to Rachel and Simon, a son, Hugh, a brother for Camilla.

PERCEVAL MAXWELL - On 19th January, in Kilmore, Victoria, Australia, to Tricia (née Hastie) and Jonathan, a daughter, Isabella Louise.

REES - On 20th January, to Caroline (née Fairclough) and David, a most beautiful son, Harvey.

SPOLIAR - To Nicholas and Emma (née Blackley) on 18th January 1995, a daughter.

WARE - On Thursday 19th January in Dubai to Carolyn (née Fraser) and Mark, a son, Barnaby Peter, a brother for Florence and Patrick

WATKINS - On January 21st, at Epsom Hospital, to Jean (née Hewitt) and Mark, a son, Thomas David.

WILSON - On 18th January, to Juliette (née Walker) and William, a son, Edward Mungo John, a brother for Samuel.

DEATHS

ADDISON - On 21st January 1995, Andrew of Church Street, Sturminster Newton, dearly loved husband of Crick. Funeral Service at 11am on Thursday 26th January at St Mary's Church, Sturminster Newton. No flowers please but donations, if desired, for the MacMillan Nurses c/o Eason Funeral Services, Newell, Sherborne, Dorset. (01935) 813479.

ANDREW - On January 20th at Yeovil District Hospital, Leslie Walter Andrew O.B.E., aged 87 years, of Crewkerne, formerly a Director of Watson House. Beloved husband of Pauline. Funeral Service at the Parish Church, Crewkerne, on Friday January 27th at 11.45 am, followed by cremation. No flowers. Donations to Oxfam c/o Stoodley & Son, The Park, The George Shopping Centre, Crewkerne, tel: (01460) 73229.

BALLANTYNE - On January 18th, peacefully at home, Grizel Cochrane aged 82. Funeral at 11.15 am on Monday January 30th at The Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, West Sussex. Enquiries to Fuller & Scott, The Wakelyns, Uckfield, tel: (0825) 763241.

DEATHS

BASSETT - Helen, on 21st January, peacefully after a short illness, at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst. Widow of Stanley and much loved mother of Michael and Nigel, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral St Peter's Church, Hambledon, Surrey, on Wednesday 1st February at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to The Friends of King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, Sussex.

BENSTEAD - On 21st January 1995, suddenly in Southampton General Hospital, Brian aged 66 years. Former Commodore and serving President of Poole Harbour Yacht Club. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at Bournemouth Crematorium on Friday February 3rd at 2pm. Flowers or donations if preferred for The Dorothy Hackforth Staff Trust may be sent to Tapper Funeral Service, 32-34 Parkstone Road, Poole, Dorset, tel: (0202) 673164.

BOWEN - On 19th January 1995, peacefully in hospital, Richard Geoffrey, of East Sheen, aged 47 years, beloved husband of Lena and father to Nicholas and Robert. Funeral Service at Christ Church, West Temple Sheen, East Sheen, SW14, on Saturday 28th January at 11am and followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PO Box 123, Lincolns Inn Fields, WC2A 3PX.

BOYLAN - Francis Nicholas, Frank, OBE, Commendatore della Repubblica Italiana, died suddenly on January 19th in his 83rd year. A Requiem Mass will be held at 2.30 pm on Thursday 26th January at The Church of The Holy Family, Yorke Road, Reigate. Beloved husband of Mary and father of Christopher, Mark, Anna and Jeremy. A Memorial Service will be held at St Etheldreda's, Ely Place, London EC1, on Wednesday 8th February at 12 noon. No flowers please, but donations may be forwarded to the family made out to The Samaritans.

DEATHS

BUCKNILL - Barbara, on January 22nd, peacefully in her sleep, at Sutton Manor Nursing Home, aged 89. Beloved wife of the late John Birch Bucknill and much loved mother of James and David. Funeral at Salisbury Crematorium on Friday 27th January at 3.40 pm. Flowers to Halcrow & Sons, Bridge Street, Andover.

CLANCY - On 21st January 1995 (peacefully) at hospital, Brendan K, BSc, C.Eng, F.I.C.E., 7 Gordonville, Coleraine, Northern Ireland, beloved husband of the late Eileen and dear brother of Aidan and the Rev. Barry Clancy. R.I.P. Requiem Mass on Wednesday 25th January at 10 am in St Malachys Church, Coleraine, followed by cremation at Roselawn Crematorium, Belfast at 2.30pm. Donations if desired for N.I. Hospice c/o Mrs Mona Murdock, 31 Bushmills Road, Coleraine, tel: (01265) 43550. Deeply regretted by his brothers, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and the entire family circle.

CLUTTERBUCK - Diane (née Whitcome) on January 19th peacefully after many difficult years suffering from Alzheimer's, aged 82. Beloved mother and friend of Amanda, widow of Jasper Clutterbuck. Funeral Service 3.30 pm on Thursday 26th January at St Mary's Hook with Warsash Church. Enquiries to Churcher and Tribbeck, tel: (0705) 580755.

COLCHESTER - Colonel George (Jock) D.S.O., R.H.A., aged 93. Peacefully on January 22nd in Southerndown Nursing Home, Chipping Norton. Much loved by his family and friends. Funeral 3 pm Saturday January 28th St Peter's Church, Hook Norton, Oxon. Family flowers only. Donations to Injured Jockey's Fund, P.O. Box 9, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8JG.

COYNE - Peacefully at St Margaret's House Nursing Home, Elie, on Sunday 22nd January 1995, Dr. Frederick Philip Coyne, aged 91 years, recently of South Street, Elie, Fife. Dearly loved husband of Doris and much loved father of Ronald and Alisdair. Funeral service in Kirkcaldy Crematorium on Friday 27th January at 2pm. No flowers please.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
071 782 7272 or fax 071 782 7827

OBITUARIES

ROSE KENNEDY

Rose Kennedy, centre, with her family in Green Park, 1939

Rose Kennedy, widow of Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy and mother of President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, died in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts, on January 22 aged 104. She was born on July 22, 1890.

WHEN John Kennedy first said of his mother that she was "the glue that holds us all together," he was not to know how true that statement would turn out to be. For Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy was to outlive both her husband and her two elder surviving sons by nearly thirty years. Yet that was by no means the full measure of the tragedies she had to endure. Long before President Kennedy and Senator Robert Kennedy were assassinated within five years of each other in the 1960s, her eldest son and the second of her daughters had been killed in separate plane crashes — the one during the war in 1944, the other in 1948.

Remarkable for her resilience and robust Roman Catholic faith, Rose Kennedy never faltered in her optimism even when her children were menaced by death, disability or the threat of disgrace. In an interview she once said: "God will not give us a cross heavier than we can bear. Either you survive or you succumb. If you survive, you profit by the experience."

At the time they were delivered, such sentiments commanded widespread admiration. Later, in a different public mood, they were to come to seem cold. Nonetheless, what no one could deny to her was courage — even if to some it was a quality that seemed to merge into callousness. Critics, such as Gore Vidal, have fastened on the statement she is said to have made to one of her daughters by telephone to Paris when in 1968 Bobby Kennedy lay dying in a Los Angeles hospital: "Now Teddy must run." Her spirit, if indomitable, also perhaps sometimes risked appearing insensitive.

Many of her fighting qualities she inherited from her father, John Fitzgerald, an exuberant Boston Irish politician known as "Honey Fitz". A one-term Congressman and Mayor of Boston, he often — because his wife was excessively shy — asked his daughter Rose, even while she was still under 20, to be his hostess and companion at public functions. She thus acquired an early political education.

It was in 1914 that Rose Fitzgerald married Joseph P. Kennedy, another Boston Irishman, whom she had known since their schooldays. At the time of their marriage the young Joseph Kennedy was just beginning a business career, which was to be as successful as it was controversial and was ultimately to lead to his playing an again controversial part — once Franklin Roosevelt came to office — in the Democratic Party's politics of his generation.

Despite her husband's notorious unfaithfulness, Rose Kennedy had nine children: five girls and four boys, the latter inheriting the family taste for politics. A stern mother, though perhaps less totally competitive-minded than her husband, she was not a woman to allow her sons to under-achieve in life. If their father provided them with the wealth and the will to succeed, it is possible that they inherited from their mother the sense of direction that allowed them to do so. The irony was that, while taking from her (if in modified form) a commitment to religious observance, this was not in the case of at least two of her sons combined with the remotest capacity for self-discipline.

Perhaps the cruellest blow of her life came in 1969 when Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, the only one of her sons to survive her, drove a car off a bridge at Chappaquiddick — and a young woman, who was his passenger, was drowned in what remain largely mysterious circumstances. Many thought this would mark the end of his political career but his mother's influence helped him to rebuild it. It was widely believed that she was instrumental in persuading him to seek re-election to the Senate in 1970, a defiant step which made possible his abortive attempt on the Democratic presidential nomination against Jimmy Carter in 1980.

By then Rose Kennedy herself was too old to play much part — but that may not have been an unmitigated deprivation. Certainly in 1968, when she was active in supporting Robert Kennedy's primary campaign against Vice-President Hubert Humphrey and Senator Eugene McCarthy, she had been the source of some embarrassment. It was she, after all, who rather too brazenly exclaimed when the lavish funding of the Kennedy electoral effort came under scrutiny: "It's our money — why shouldn't we use it how we like?" Forthright though the statement was, it hardly fitted with the spirit of liberal, idealistic America of the 1960s.

Equally disturbing to later generations was her acquiescence in the frontal lobotomy operation undergone by her oldest and slightly retarded daughter Rosemary in 1941. It transformed the 23-year-old young woman's character totally, leaving her, as her mother was to write bleakly in her memoirs, "permanently incapacitated". At one time there was some effort to pretend that the operation had been ordered solely by her husband — always embarrassed by his daughter's condition — but Rose's autobiography, *Times Remembered* (1974), makes it clear that this was not the case and that it was a joint decision. At least, however, while she was well enough, Rose used to go to visit her daughter in the Wisconsin convent where she has been confined for the past 53 years — something that her husband never did.

In retrospect one of the more cheerful periods of Rose Kennedy's life was probably spent in London where her husband was United States Ambassador to the Court of St James between 1938 and 1940. Although the mission was not a political success — Kennedy was unpopular in this country for his defeatism and isolationism — his wife was a lively and sought-after hostess. There were even some moments that they could relish together. Invited to stay at Windsor Castle two weeks after their arrival, it was Joe Kennedy who murmured to his wife in their Castle apartments: "Well, Rose, this is a hell of a long way from East Boston." The impression of her friends that London later came to occupy a warm place in her memory was reinforced when the Molyneux gown she had first worn for her presentation at Buckingham Palace in 1938 reappeared and was worn again for her son's inauguration as President.

Rose Kennedy continued to lead a relatively active and energetic life until she was struck down by a stroke in 1984. She had barely been seen in public since, not even making an appearance on her 100th birthday in July 1990.

She is survived by four out of her five daughters and one of her four sons.

PETER LUKE

Peter Luke, MC, soldier, writer and dramatist, died in Cadiz yesterday aged 75. He was born in St Albans on August 12, 1919.

OF THE two sons of Sir Harry Luke, Lieutenant-Governor of Malta, 1930-38, and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, 1938-42, Peter was the elder. Sir Harry's books on history, travel and gastronomy still fizz off the page, and with Hungarian, Polish, Irish and English blood in his veins, and influenced by such a parent, Peter Luke was likely to become writer or painter.

Notwithstanding the fact that he studied art in early life, it was the written word that was to claim his ultimate allegiance though, as his work for television and films indicates, there was a strongly visual component in much of what he wrote.

Peter Ambrose Cyprian Luke was educated at Eton (where, as he later recalled, one master's report described him as "the most naturally idle boy I have ever met . . . ") after which he went to the Byam Shaw School of Art. He continued his studies under the cubist André Lhote in Paris, but the outbreak of the Second World War interrupted these.

He joined the 1st Battalion, the Rifle Brigade, was sent to the Western Desert and was wounded in the ferocious artillery and tank battles of Alamein. After recovering he rejoined his battalion and was with it in the uphill battle through Italy until the spring of 1944.

He then returned to England where the Rifle Brigade was involved in the urgent preparations for D-Day. His brigade joined the melée in Normandy on D+3 and Luke fought through to the finish of the Northwest Europe campaign, ending the war in Germany as an acting lieutenant-colonel. He was awarded the MC in 1944, early in the Normandy battle.

After the war he worked for a year, 1946-47, as a sub-editor with Reuters, but he abandoned a journalistic career to join the London wine shippers Mackenzie. For them he travelled extensively, in the process refining his palate and his deep feeling for Spain, its people, its music, its horses and its bullfights.

During this period he was also writing plays for television. One of these, *Small Fish Are Sweet*, was produced by ABC TV and in 1958 Luke was appointed story editor of the influential drama forum *Armchair Theatre*. He became editor of ABC's *The Bookman* in 1962-63 and followed Kenneth Tynan as producer of its arts programme, *Tempo*, in 1963-64. He then moved to the BBC where he was drama producer of *Play of the Week* and *The Wednesday Play*.

In 1967, from a location near Alern, north of Malaga, he directed his own film *Black Sound — Deep Song* about Lorca. His leading lady was the Anglo-Irish actress June Tobin, whom he married as his third wife.

He bought La Almona, a handsome *cortijo* with citrus, almond and olive groves sloping down to the hamlet of El Chorro, and he and his wife began to improve and modernise the property. They had one problem, shortage of money, but at the crucial moment Luke's London agent telephoned, "*Hadrian's a hit*".

Luke had earlier written a stage play, *Hadrian VII* based on the "life" of Baron Corvo (Frederick William Rolfe). It had been put on at the Birmingham Rep in 1967, and was a flop. But in 1968 the Mermaid had no play to fill a two-week gap and *Hadrian VII* was put on as the "filler". It had an instant success, subsequently transferring to the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, to Broadway and to Paris. So the Lukes settled on their Andalusian hilltop with horses, mules, donkeys, dogs and children and stepchildren.

Luke wrote two volumes of autobiography: *Sisyphus and Reilly* (1972), whose enigmatic title reflected the opposite poles of Luke's career: periods of unrelenting struggle and, at others, an enjoyment of the life of Reilly; and *The Mad Pomegranate & the Praying Mantis, Adventure in Andalusia* (1985), an account of his Spanish experiences. He also published a historical novel, *The Other Side of the Hill*, based on his regiment's part in the Peninsular War, and wrote a host of plays and other work for the BBC.

When their children grew up, Peter and June Luke moved to the white town of Jimena de la Frontera. He is survived by his third wife, a son, two daughters, a step-son son and step-daughter, and by a daughter of his second marriage.

SIR RONALD HARRIS

Sir Ronald Harris, KCVO, CB, Third Secretary, HM Treasury, 1960-64, and First Church Estates Commissioner, 1969-82, died on January 22 aged 81. He was born on May 6, 1913.

RONALD HARRIS had two careers — first as a servant of the State, then of the Church. The latter was perhaps more immediately predictable than the first. The son and grandson of Church of England parsons, he was brought up with two sisters in Evangelical, even Sabbatarian, rectories in Essex and East London. He later came to regard his conduct as a child as having erred on the side of "being too well behaved" — not an accusation that is often made against parsons' sons.

Ronald Montague Joseph Harris was sent to school at Harrow, where he discovered a lifelong love of history. Going up to Trinity College, Oxford, he obtained a first in Modern History and, consciously declining to follow in paternal footsteps, elected to enter the Civil Service.

In 1936 he joined the India Office, at that time also responsible for Burma, with the rank of assistant principal. In 1939 he was transferred to the Cabinet Office as private secretary to the Secretary to the Cabinet, Sir Edward (later Lord) Bridges. He was thus just in time to be present for the transforming of the Cabinet Office into an integrated war unit once Churchill became Prime Minister in 1940.

Harris described his wartime experience of Churchill as "almost always at one remove and very lowly"; nevertheless, he developed a lifelong admiration for his energy and vision — something that served him in good stead when he returned to the Cabinet Office as deputy secretary to Sir Norman Brook and found himself (Brook at the time being ill) actually taking the Cabinet minutes under Churchill.

In 1944 Harris was given administrative charge of shipping the Prime Minister, Chiefs of Staff and 300 others to the Quebec conference. That same year he was recalled to the India Office and sent to India to assess the Indian Civil Service requirements in the aftermath of war.

One year later he was appointed principal private secretary to Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary of State for India and Burma in the new Labour Government, and was much involved in the rapid preparations for Indian independence. Such was the frantic activity of telegrams and messages between the Cabinet in London and Lord Mountbatten, the Viceroy in India, that Harris delivered the "scissors and paste" final copy of the India Independence Bill to the clerks at the House of Commons only ten minutes before the debate.

In 1947 Harris returned to the Far East to help Burma prepare for independence. With that objective achieved he was next sent to the Imperial Defence College for a year and in 1949 recalled to be an assistant secretary at the Treasury.

In 1952 he returned to the Cabinet Office as deputy to Sir Norman Brook. This experience, together with acting as secretary to the special group of ministers set up to advise on the best postwar policy concerning compulsorily acquired land, made him a fairly obvious choice as the last Permanent Commissioner for Crown Lands in the aftermath of the Crichel Down affair.

Some historians have since questioned the need for Sir Thomas Dugdale's resignation in 1954 as Minister of Agriculture over Crichel Down. Harris entertained no such doubts, writing in a private memoir: "It is my belief that the compelling reason for Sir Thomas's resignation was not that he felt bound to accept personal responsibility for particular errors of officials serving under him but because, not surprisingly, he felt unable to defend his stewardship as Minister of Agriculture during this period."

Crown Estates appealed to Harris's love of the countryside, agriculture, and trees in particular, as well as his social interest in housing and post-war urban development. He became engaged in actively supporting such projects as the creation of the Saville Gardens at Windsor, the building of New Zealand House near Trafalgar Square and the restoration of the Nash terraces facing Regent's Park.

The reorganisation of the Crown Estates Commission was successfully accomplished under the chairmanship of Sir Malcolm Trustram Eve (later Lord Silsoe) and so in 1960 Harris was recalled to the Treasury as Third Secretary. This post appealed to other elements of his upbringing, in particular his partial responsibility for funding the arts. He had a considerable hand in the public appeal (matched by the Treasury) which enabled the country to purchase Leonardo da Vinci's "Virgin with Child, St Anne and St John the Baptist" for the National Gallery, and was delighted to be told by the then Chancellor, Selwyn Lloyd, to "get on" with organising the creation and building of the National Theatre on the South Bank of the Thames.

Harris's earlier work with Lord Silsoe in the Crown Estates is the most likely explanation for the invitation, in 1963, to become Secretary to the Church Commissioners (Silsoe was First Commissioner), an invitation which combined his experience in finance, administration and property with his lively (and increasingly radical) Christian faith and social concern. So ended one career and began another. In 1969 he succeeded Lord Silsoe as First Church Estates Commissioner.

When Harris first arrived at Millbank the capital assets of the Church of England stood at £323 million, with the average stipend of a clergyman at just over £1,000, little working expenses and a retirement age of 70. When Harris retired in 1982 the assets were valued at £1,442 million, stipends were at nearly £7,000, congregations had risen to the need to pay expenses and the retirement age had been reduced to 65.

The recent débâcle in the Commissioners' fortunes caused Harris considerable distress, not least because they occurred precisely because his three golden rules were simultaneously broken: never borrow to invest; keep the Church's assets balanced between agricultural land, investment portfolios and property developments; and always impose strict financial oversight. Harris's training as a civil servant precluded him from comment concerning his successor (Sir Douglas Lovelock who came from Customs and Excise) but he was, at one stage heard to say that what had occurred was not altogether surprising as the person appointed to succeed him was someone whose past training was not in creating wealth but in taking it from people! He welcomed the appointment of Sir Michael Coleman to replace Sir Douglas.

Beyond his work as a Church Commissioner, Harris devoted a great deal of time to education, to his appreciation of music and to his family. His enjoyment of young people was unflagging. These gained particular expression in his chairmanship of the Governors of Benenden School and his close association with the Yehudi Menuhin School opposite his house in Surrey. For the Yehudi School he converted the large Elizabethan barn in his garden as a concert hall and was successively chairman of the Friends and vice-chairman and then chairman of the Governors.

He was twice married, his first wife Julia Wharton dying in 1955. He married secondly Marjorie Tryon (neé Verney) in 1957. She died in 1986. He is survived by one son and three daughters of his first marriage and one step-daughter from his second.

ON THIS DAY

January 24 1877

Adelaide Paulina Irby (1831-1911), the daughter of an English admiral, played her part in the struggle for Serbian independence, taking up residence in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1866 and becoming involved in all kinds of charitable work. She sent a number of letters to The Times *of which this is one.*

WAR VICTIMS IN BOSNIA.

Mr. Freeman has forwarded to us for publication the following letter he has received from Miss Irby, dated Knin, January 9 :-

"We find that of all the unsupplied needs of the fugitives about Knin food is the greatest. Kukuruz (Indian corn) will go the furthest, and is moreover their customary and daily food in their own lands. We have, therefore, ordered from Fiume, through our friend the Belgian Consul, a further supply of Indian corn, to the amount of one thousand pounds sterling in all. Here, in the neighbourhood of Knin, the price has risen to seven and eight guldens per metz—35 okas. At Fiume the best Indian corn from Galatz is about 5 guldens 30 kreutzers (10s.). Ten shillings will fully cover the expense of one metz, including transport from Fiume by ship and cart up to the villages where the fugitives are living.

"The next want is clothing : so we are buying calico from Sebenico and Fiume and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Mr. Malleson's bales and the Liverpool blankets which have alrady left Trieste.

"As to housing, we are told here that all the fugitives in this district are now under some sort of roof. Their number is now reduced to 10,000. A large number of poor sufferers have been sent on into 'Croatia' - i.e., to Gracac, in the Upper Military Frontier, and 2,000 have died about here since October. An old man told us that of 30 who were in his hut, eight died there of smallpox. Smallpox, diphtheritis, and typhus have carried off most of their destined victims. There are now comparatively few cases in this neighbourhood. It is not doctors they want—at least, not doctor's medicines—but food. Such starved hunger-stricken wretches as the fugitives at Strmitza we have never yet seen. The allowance given by the Austrian Government and the Knin Committee is barely sufficient to keep their bodies above ground.

"The huts are wretched and the crowding is still frightful. It would be easy enough where stones abound to build up walls to be roofed, but as no wood was brought down from the Bosnian forests last year, planks for roofing are enormously dear. After long discussions with some natives it does not seem prudent to insist on our plan of restoring and roofing some walls of ruined houses, but we shall see to-morrow if it is possible to get some planks at a reasonable rate from the master of a saw-mill.

"We drove yesterday to Strmitza, a village into and about which 6,000 fugitives are now crowded, in addition to over 600 natives. Strmitza is reached in two hours from Knin by an excellent carriage road, which suddenly stops short at the Turkish frontier on the top of a hill in the middle of a valley, surrounded by steep and rugged limestone mountains. On this hill top stands a large building, defended by a wall, formerly the Austrian quarantine station, and now deserted. It was used last Summer for two months as a hospital for the wounded Insurgents. We hope to induce the rich man to whom it belongs to let it as a school-house. It is disgraceful that this and another building beside it, formerly the gendarmerie, should be suffered by its miserly owner to stand empty in the midst of so much misery and overcrowding.

"There are few wilder scenes than from the hill top of Strmitza. On the opposite mountain side, within half an hour's walk, in Turkish territory, are the ruined houses of the Christian village of Ziscok, burnt and destroyed last Summer by the Turks . . . How long is this misery and disorder to go on ?"

PERSONAL COLUMN

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صكرا من الاهل

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY JANUARY 24 1995

NEWS

MPs back campaign to free Clegg

■ The campaign to free Private Lee Clegg, the paratrooper jailed for life for killing a joyrider in Belfast in 1990, has been taken up by at least 50 Tory MPs with a demand for an emergency Commons debate.

After his appeal against conviction was rejected by the Law Lords last week, the momentum for Clegg's release has increased dramatically .... **Pages 1, 19**

Axe found in Wimbledon Common

■ Police divers have recovered an axe from a pond on Wimbledon Common close to the scene where Colin Stagg, cleared last year of murdering Rachel Nickell, is alleged to have attacked a father and son. Earlier, Stagg had appeared in court charged with assault and carrying an offensive weapon .... **Page 1**

Lilley CSA reforms

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, has bowed to pressure from middle class fathers and Tory MPs by announcing radical changes to the Child Support Agency .... **Page 1**

Royal valet quits

The Prince of Wales's personal valet resigned after admitting "gross misconduct" by betraying his master's trust .... **Page 2**

Waco warning

A man whose wife and five children were burnt to death in the raid on the Branch Davidian cult compound in Waco, Texas, told an inquest that he had warned his family of the dangers .... **Pace 3**

Guilty plea

A teenager accused of shooting dead a British tourist during a bungled robbery in Florida pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of second-degree murder and may face a 40-year prison sentence .... **Page 3**

Poor test results

One in three 14-year-olds has fallen behind in English, mathematics and science, according to test results .... **Page 5**

Needle left in baby

A hospital is investigating how a hypodermic needle was left inside a new-born baby for two weeks. The mother pulled the needle from the back of her three-week-old son .... **Page 7**

Victory for pilots

Nearly 200 former Dan-Air pilots are to ask the High Court to make British Airways pay £7.8 million in redundancy after they won an industrial tribunal case for unfair dismissal .... **Page 8**

Brightlingsea pledge

The wharf owner at the centre of demonstrations against live animal exports at Brightlingsea has vowed to sell or lease the business after a violent demonstration at his home .... **Page 7**

Bosnia role

Lieutenant General Rupert Smith, who is taking over as commander of UN troops in Bosnia, is expected initially to take a lower-profile role than his predecessor, Sir Michael Rose**Page 13**

Killers honoured

Middle East peace hopes dimmed as Islamic militants in Gaza paid homage to the two suicide bombers who killed 19 Jews on Sunday while Israel was plunged into mourning .... **Page 12**

Simpson ruling

The judge in the OJ Simpson murder trial has ruled that jurors can see bloody photographs of the victims and the crime scene during opening statements .. **Page 14**

Phasing out honours

In a symbolic move towards republicanism, New Zealand is planning to phase out the British honours system .... **Page 12**

Poker hopefuls can play the blues

■ In a break with tradition said to be aimed at short-sighted poker players in smoke-filled rooms, some casino owners in America will next month begin playing with a four-coloured pack of cards in which hearts remain red and spades black, but diamonds become a distinctive blue and clubs an equally unmistakeable green .... **Page 1**

PA

The committee to free Private Lee Clegg launches its campaign at Nostell Priory, Wakfield, the home of Lord St Oswald. From left: Rev Fred Preston, Lieutenant General Sir Napier Crookenden, Lord St Oswald, Simon McKay, legal adviser, and Colonel Peter Field. Page 1

BUSINESS

Drugs: Glaxo, the pharmaceuticals giant, launched an £8.9 billion bid for Wellcome, its rival, in an attempt to create the world's largest drug company by sales ..... **Page 23**

Prudential: Mick Newmarch, the chief executive of Prudential, the insurance company, resigned unexpectedly yesterday .... **Page 23.**

Economy: Britain's economy grew by 0.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year compared with the third quarter and was 4 per cent higher than in the same period in 1993 .... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 40.8 points to close at 2954.2. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 79.8 to 80.1 after a rise from $1.5902 to $1.5950 and from DM2.3991 to DM2.4077 .... **Page 26**

SPORT

Boxing: Lennox Lewis has chosen Emmanuel Steward, who masterminded his downfall against Oliver McCall, as his new trainer. Lewis has been without a trainer since September .... **Page 42**

Cricket: England's preoccupation with an unmanageable injury-list condemned their match against Victoria in Bendigo to an unsatisfactory draw .... **Page 42**

Rugby union: The French federation's disciplinary committee meets today to investigate a charge of foul play against Olivier Merle in the match against Wales .... **Page 44**

Tennis: Andre Agassi, looking as though he had strolled in from a gypsy encampment, trounced the last home survivor, Pat Rafter, at the Australian Open .... **Page 44**

[illegible]

Strings to their bow: The Borodin string quartet is 50 years old. Joanna Pitman attends the celebrations in Moscow .... **Page 16**

Misguided: Nigella Lawson questions spending on health guidelines when so many do not have enough to eat .... **Page 16**

[illegible]

Foreign parts: When an object is left inside a person, the body can be adept at minimising its harmful effects .... **Page 17**

[illegible]

Payout fears: Lawyers are the latest group to find themselves paying hefty sums of compensation for sexual harassment .... **Page 35**

[illegible]

Poussin in profusion: The Royal Academy's new exhibition of Poussin is a remarkable survey, encompassing almost all of his finest painted work .... **Page 31**

Marcel plus overcoat: Veteran master of mime Marcel Marceau has returned to London with his own version of Gogol's *The Overcoat* .... **Page 32**

Brats on show: Sunday's concert at the Astoria offered a foretaste of the rock bands expected to pick up prizes at tonight's *New Musical Express* Brats Awards .... **Page 33**

Biting back: The Royal Ballet's "Dance Bites" tour takes challenging modern works to the English regions .... **Page 33**

[illegible]

IN THE TIMES

■ TUNED IN

Managing director Liz Forgan explains what's really happening at BBC Radio

■ DRAIN ON ARTS

Is the arts going to lose its pools jackpot now that the lottery has arrived?

[illegible]

Like it or not, the Super Bowl of murder trials [O. J.Simpson] kicks off in a Los Angeles courtroom after seven months of hype and hyperbole. Is there any redeeming virtue in this obsession? Probably. Because of this sensational murder and the histrionic publicity surrounding it, we've been forced to address some compelling problems of our society that often go begging for an audience — *USA Today*

There is at least one silver lining in the Mexican meltdown: no one anywhere now denies the economic power of an intangible called "confidence"

— *The Wall Street Journal*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Richard Leakey, conservationist and expert on human evolution, is profiled in *Network First: The Man Who Saved the Animals* (ITV, 10.40pm). **Review:** Peter Barnard salutes Channel 4's *NYPD Blue* for great writing and brilliant acting .... **Page 43**

OPINION

Days of growth

Given the uncertainties in the world economy, the slackening of consumer demand and the weakness of investment within Britain, any further tightening of monetary policy might well be premature .... **Page 19**

The Clegg affair

A sensible reform — proposed unsuccessfully as an amendment to the Criminal Justice Act — would be to make it possible for courts to define excessive self-defence as manslaughter rather than murder .... **Page 19**

Calf trouble

For a politician often criticised as being insensitive and a shade too clever for comfort, William Waldegrave has displayed admirable political dexterity and common sense .... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN

What is the meaning of the thefts and swindles played upon generous people who do nothing but help those who need help? .... **Page 18**

JACK STRAW

For me, this has been no more than irritating; but for many of my former schoolfriends the incident has been an upsetting and gratuitous intrusion .... **Page 18**

PETER RIDDELL

The central question is whether an independent element should be introduced into the machinery for investigating allegations against individual MPs .... **Page 10**

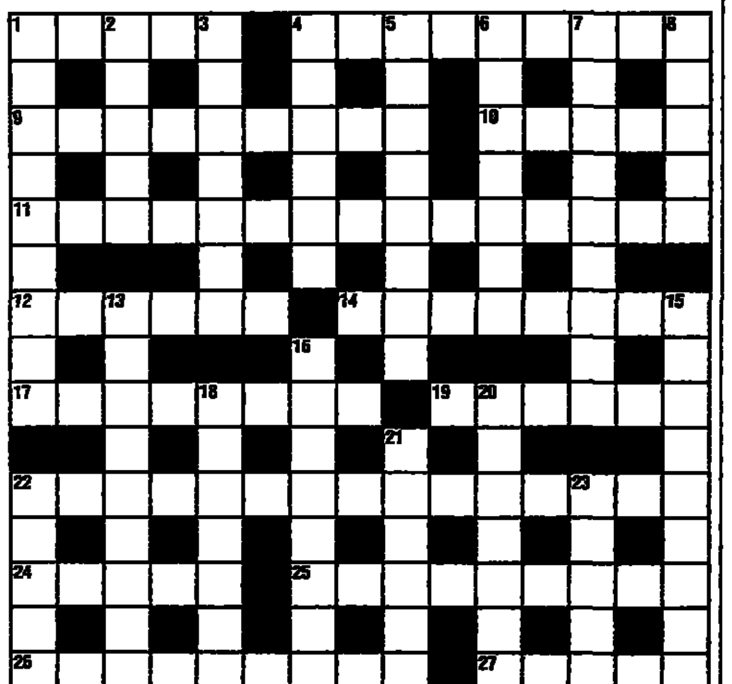
OBITUARIES

Rose Kennedy, widow of Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy and mother of President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert F. Kennedy; **Sir Ronald Harris**, First Church Estates Commissioner; **Peter Luke**, soldier, writer and dramatist .... ***Page 21***

[illegible]

Prison sentence on paratrooper; threat to free speech .... **Page 19**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,760



ACROSS

1 Rascal makes very little money by cheating (5)
4 Numbers found after this? Clue – it's possibly about six (9)
9 Very old vehicles with female driver, initially (9)
10 Ruthless statesman turned eccentric before getting old (5)
11 Part of profit taken, as London gets another unfinished cab (7,5,3)
12 Raised in family of a wild animal (6)
14 It's there, perhaps, for a change (3,5)
17 Targets set on small golf course for this game (8)
19 Exhume rigorously the bones buried therein (6)
22 Ruthlessly get close to pirate or criminal (2,4,2,2,5)
24 Game a bridge player gets absorbed in a little? (5)
25 A sound judge of character? (9)
26 Campaign leader succeeded with fruit and nut combination (9)
27 Man received with understanding (5)

DOWN

1 Stop in house and then pass on (9)
2 A theologian in college appears to make sense (3,2)
3 Vehicle in which pupils have arrived, initially, at school (7)
4 Quick portrait painter captures quartet (6)
5 Hamlet's character gives queen bad time, taking it to heart (8)
6 Intelligence needed to work out n digits (7)
7 Sectional reorganisation in seaside area (9)
8 Tribesmen act legally in hearing (5)
13 Magazine policy leads to a funny conclusion (5,4)
15 Cheat breaks strict order, concealing king and queen (9)
16 Release two peacemakers (8)
18 Professional player, not a university man (7)
20 Dubious chap who takes pawns with a rook (7)
21 Current in a shallow part of river (6)
22 Blackbirds put in containers (5)
23 Outstanding in old theatrical part (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,759

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Times Two Crossword, page 44

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Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Drumalbin, Strathclyde, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 1.23in; highest sunshine: Tynemouth, 7.3hr.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.51 am	4.35 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
10.51 am	12.52 am

Last quarter today

London 4.35 pm to 7.50 am
Bristol 4.45 pm to 7.59 am
Edinburgh 4.28 pm to 8.21 am
Manchester 4.35 pm to 8.06 am
Penzance 5.02 pm to 8.06 am

FORECAST

☐ **General situation:** low pressure over southern Scandinavia will maintain a showery airstream over most parts. England and Wales will have sunny spells and showers, the showers mainly in the west. These will die out later in the southwest as rain spreads northeast. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny intervals and wintry showers. It will feel chilly everywhere.

☐ **London, E Anglia, E, W Midlands:** dry with sunny intervals and showers. Wind west fresh, becoming light. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **SE, Central S England:** dry with clear or sunny spells. Wind west fresh, becoming light. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **E, NE, Central N England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** mainly dry with clear or sunny spells and an isolated shower. Wind west fresh, but strong at first. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England:** showers dying out, rain later. Wind fresh westerly, becoming southeasterly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Wales, NW England:** sun and showers. Wind fresh westerly, becoming light. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, Aberdeen, SW, NW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** sun and showers. Wind northwest or north fresh to strong. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Outlook:** sunny spells and wintry showers in the north. Southern areas will have outbreaks of rain, preceded by snow on hills. Becoming mild in the south for a time.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

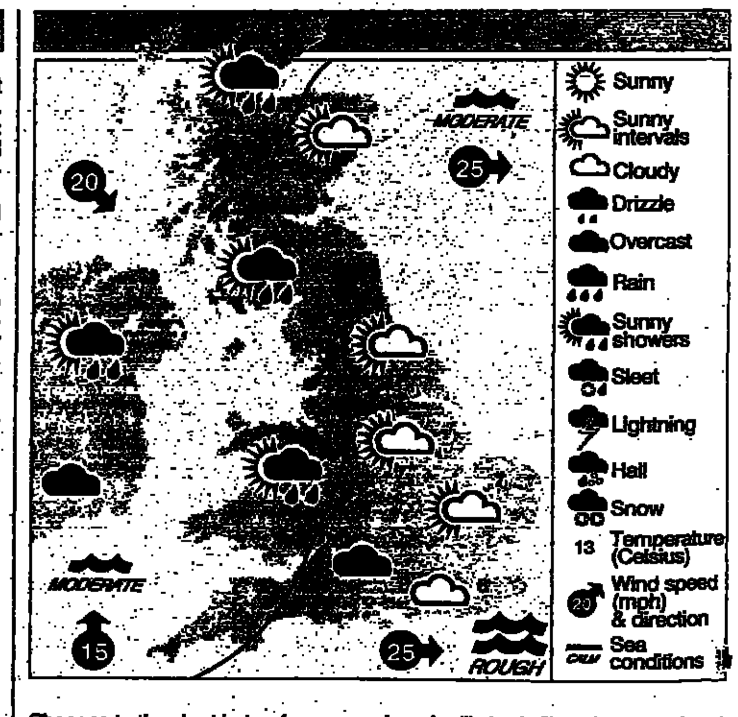
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.26	6	43	c	Leuchars	4.5	0.07	5	41	sh
Anglesey	-	-	6	43	c	Liverpool	-	0.07	5	41	c
Aspatria	2.1	0.22	5	41	h	London	-	0.52	8	46	r
Aviemore	-	0.35	3	37	sl	Lowestoft	-	0.50	7	45	r
Belfast	5.4	0.03	4	39	sl	Manchester	-	-	5	41	c
Birmingham	-	0.06	6	43	r	Margate	-	0.38	9	48	r
Bognor R	-	1.23	11	52	r	Minehead	-	0.47	7	45	r
Bournem'th	-	0.42	8	46	r	Morecambe	0.8	0.03	6	43	h
Bristol	-	0.38	6	43	r	Newcastle	6.8	0.14	6	43	s
Buxton	-	0.04	3	37	c	Newquay	-	0.61	8	46	r
Cardiff	-	0.49	6	43	r	Norwich	-	0.22	7	45	r
Clacton	-	0.47	8	46	r	Nottingham	0.2	0.02	5	41	r
Colwyn Bay	-	0.04	6	43	c	Oxford	-	0.48	6	43	r
Cromer	-	0.04	7	45	r	Penzance	0.1	0.66	8	46	r
Doncaster	0.9	-	6	43	c	Plymouth	0.1	0.56	7	45	r
Edinburgh	5.5	0.13	5	41	sh	Poole	-	0.36	7	45	r
Eskdalemuir	0.9	0.82	2	36	sn	Ross-o-wye	-	0.12	6	43	r
Exmouth	0.2	0.28	7	45	r	Scilly Isles	0.5	0.50	8	46	r
Falmouth	X	0.62	8	46	r	Shrewsbury	-	0.10	5	41	r
Fishguard	-	0.18	5	41	r	Southend	-	0.33	10	50	r
Folkestone	-	0.60	10	50	r	Southport	-	0.32	6	43	du
Glasgow	3.4	0.36	5	41	sh	Stornoway	-	0.48	4	39	sh
Guernsey	-	0.68	13	55	g	Teignmouth	0.2	0.33	7	45	r
Hastings	-	0.66	11	52	r	Tenby	-	0.25	6	43	r
Hunstanton	0.1	0.05	6	43	r	Tiree	4.3	0.58	7	45	h
Isle of Man	2.9	-	6	43	b	Torquay	0.1	0.52	10	50	r
Jersey	-	0.81	12	54	r	Tynemouth	7.3	0.10	6	43	s
Kinloss	-	0.59	4	39	sl	Ventnor	-	0.82	11	52	r
Leeds	1.9	0.24	5	41	sh	Weymouth	-	0.47	8	46	r
Lerwick	-	0.46	5	41	h						

These are Sunday's figures

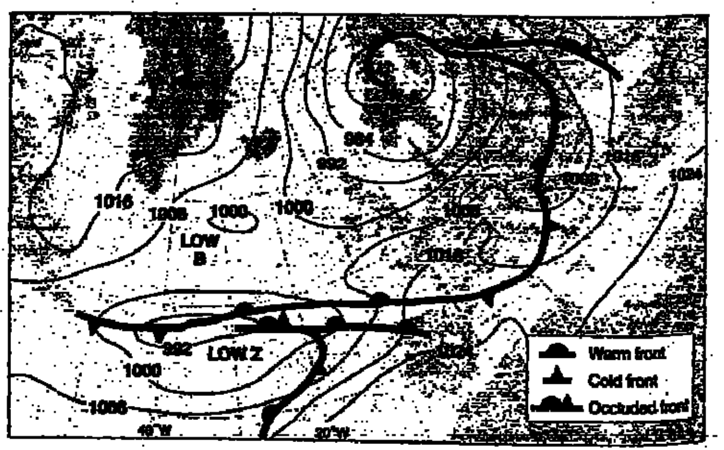
ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	c	C'phagn	2	36	c	Majorca	16	61	s	Rome	15	59	f
Akrotiri	14	57	s	Corfu	12	54	f	Malaga	17	63	s	Salzburg	9	48	f
Alex'dria	16	61	c	Dublin	6	43	f	Malta	15	59	f	S F'risco	12	54	c
Algiers	21	70	s	Faro	15	59	c	Melb'rne	23	73	c	Santiago	31	88	s
Amst'dm	7	45	s	Florence	12	54	c	Mexico C	18	64	s	S Paulo	25	77	c
Athens	15	59	s	Frankfurt	9	48	s	Miami	18	64	c	Seoul	3	37	s
Bahrain	17	63	s	Funchal	18	64	s	Milan	3	37	d	Sing'por	30	86	r
Bangkok	31	88	f	Geneva	10	50	c	Montreal	-2	28	f	St'kholm	-1	30	sn
Barbados	28	82	c	Gibraltar	16	61	s	Moscow	-9	16	f	Strasb'rg	8	46	r
Barcelona	19	66	f	Helsinki	-3	27	sn	Munich	11	52	r	Sydney	21	70	c
Beirut	16	61	f	Hong K	21	70	s	Nairobi	26	79	s	Tangier	15	59	f
Belgrade	11	52	s	Innsbrck	11	52	f	Naples	13	55	c	Tel Aviv	17	63	s
Berlin	7	45	c	Istanbul	8	46	s	N Delhi	16	61	s	Tenerife	26	79	s
Bermuda	22	72	f	Jeddah	27	81	s	N York	3	37	c	Tokyo	13	55	c
Biarritz	19	66	f	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Nice	14	57	s	Toronto	-2	28	sn
Borde'x	10	50	r	Karachi	27	81	s	Oslo	0	32	c	Tunis	18	64	s
Brussels	7	45	f	L Palmas	21	70	s	Paris	9	48	f	Valencia	17	63	c
Budapest	6	43	c	Le Touqt	10	50	s	Peking	1	34	s	Vanc'ver	3	37	c
B Aires	31	88	f	Lisbon	17	63	c	Perth	22	72	c	Venice	5	41	f
Cairo	17	63	c	Locarno	3	37	f	Prague	7	45	f	Vienna	2	36	s
Cape Tn	29	84	s	L Angels	13	55	f	Reykjavik	0	32	f	Warsaw	5	41	r
Chicago	-6	21	sn	Luxembg	6	43	f	Rhodes	14	57	s	Wash'ton	3	37	f
Ch'church	13	55	c	Luxor	20	68	s	Rio de J	25	77	f	Wellngton	17	63	c
Cologne	8	46	c	Madrid	10	50	c	Riyadh	16	61	s	Zurich	9	48	r

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low A will slowly fill and remain almost stationary. Low B will fill and lose its identity while low Z will drift slowly north east



[illegible]

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6:15	6.55	7:03	6.33	Leith	7:43	4.86	8:07	4.89
Aberdeen	6:28	3.76	6:47	3.88	Liverpool	3:54	8.40	4:16	8.35
Avonmouth	11:58	11.29	—	—	Lowestoft	2:00	2.42	2:37	2.08
Belfast	3:44	3.08	4:17	3.35	Margate	4:28	4.41	5:06	4.13
Cardiff	11:52	10.54	—	—	Milford Haven	11:10	6.04	11:42	5.72
Devonport	10:35	4.82	11:06	4.63	Newquay	10:14	5.93	10:50	5.59
Dover	3:34	6.17	4:04	5.88	Oban	10:25	3.36	11:07	3.13
Dublin	4:35	3.59	5:07	3.78	Penzance	9:35	4.88	10:11	4.64
Falmouth	10:00	4.66	10:32	4.36	Portland	11:14	1.66	11:54	1.66
Glasgow	5:50	4.09	6:04	4.47	Portsmouth	3:59	4.36	4:22	4.11
Harwich	4:16	3.70	4:57	3.53	Shoreham	3:44	5.61	4:10	5.39
Holyhead	3:03	4.81	3:30	4.89	Southampton	3:27	4.24	3:56	4.04
Hull	11:10	6.52	11:31	6.74	Swansea	11:16	8.24	11:49	7.94
Ilfracombe	10:49	8.08	11:22	7.76	Tees	8:53	4.54	9:06	4.66
King's Lynn	11:28	5.76	11:58	5.89	W'ton-on-Nze	4:21	3.90	5:05	3.79

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هكذا من الاعمال

SMALL BUSINESS 30

Fighter at 40 for the mature jobless

ARTS 31-33

Richard Cork on Poussin at the Royal Academy

SPORT 40-44

Local hero cracks as Agassi raises roof in Melbourne

THE NEW BAR COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Law 35-37

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook TUESDAY JANUARY 24 1995

Bill to meet share options would be £500m

Glaxo bids £9bn for rival

By Sarah Bagnall

GLAXO, the world's largest drugs company, has launched a £8.9 billion offer for its rival Wellcome, the largest bid the City has seen, in a effort to survive the increasingly hostile trading conditions in the pharmaceutical industry.

The Wellcome Trust, which owns 39.5 per cent of the target's equity, accepted the offer late on Sunday night, ahead of yesterday's announcement. In contrast, Sir Richard Sykes, Glaxo's chief executive, only phoned John Robb, Wellcome's chairman and chief executive, moments before the deal was made public. As a result, Wellcome's management is still digesting the offer and urging shareholders "to take no action" until a decision is reached.

The offer values Wellcome's shares at £10.25 each — a premium of about 49 per cent to its share price of 688p last Friday, and 28 per cent more than the 800p private investors paid in September 1992, when Wellcome Trust reduced its stake from 73.5 per cent to 50 per cent. Yesterday, Wellcome's shares leapt 39 per cent, up 273p to 961p, while Glaxo's slid 44½p to 599p.

Wellcome shareholders are being offered £722 in cash and 47 new Glaxo shares for every 100 Wellcome shares. Glaxo is funding the £6.3 billion cash element through new banking facilities, which will transform Glaxo into a highly geared company. This is in sharp contrast to the current net cash position of £2 billion.

Sir Richard said the deal reflected the need to adapt to changes in the industry. "The pharmaceutical industry used to be a producer environment. It has changed to a purchaser environment," he said.

Pharmaceutical companies are under intense pricing pressure, margins are being eroded, research and development costs are rising, and as a result deal fever has hit the industry. Sir Richard said the offer, which followed months of deliberation, offered significant opportunities for rationalisation, and hence, cost cutting. There is a large degree of overlap between the two companies — they both have research facilities in northern California and large facilities in the UK.

Early workings from analysts suggest that about £550 million of annual costs could be stripped out of the enlarged group, which will be called Glaxo Wellcome.

Rationalisation will not be limited to research and development. Sir Richard said: "We believe there are significant opportunities to achieve operational efficiencies in research and development, manufacturing, selling and administration." He said it was too early to calculate the eventual cuts in staff numbers from Glaxo's 44,000 and Wellcome's 17,500 employees.

The City is forecasting that exceptional costs will be between £500 million and £1 billion as a result of the rationalisation.

Sir Richard said that in ten years' time the pharmaceutical industry will be dominated by a handful of large groups. He wants Glaxo to number among them.

"We have taken one step with the Wellcome offer and we will take another if needs be. It only needed three or four deals in the US and we could have become marginalised," he said.

ROBIN MAYES

Sir Richard Sykes fended off media questions yesterday after saying the offer for Wellcome reflected the need to adapt to changes in the industry

Offer would rise to £9.4bn over options

GLAXO is faced with a bill of £500 million to meet the share options held by Wellcome's directors and employees if the takeover deal goes ahead. This would push the offer price up to £9.4 billion. Usually share options are exercised when a change of ownership occurs.

According to Wellcome's latest annual accounts, at August 31, 1993, employees held options over 45.1 million shares. The executive scheme had options over 12.4 million. John Robb, chairman and chief executive, has options over 250,756 shares now worth £2.6 million and owns a further 13,750. Wellcome would not comment on whether Russell Walls, the finance director who joined the company two weeks ago, has been granted any options.

City types get high on latest drug cocktail

By Jon Ashworth

THE Krug was flowing in the Savoy Grill yesterday as bankers and lawyers toasted "the Big One" — the glorious £8.9 billion engagement between the two giants of world pharmaceuticals, Glaxo and Wellcome.

Their euphoria is understandable. The City earned £120 million from takeovers last year. Investment bankers, lawyers, accountants and PR consultants are expected to earn about £140 million from the Glaxo/Wellcome deal alone.

Lazard Brothers, Barings and Morgan Stanley are among the advisers who stand to earn a pretty penny out of the City's biggest agreed takeover. It may lack the blazing guns of a really nasty hostile bid — but who cares? This is serious money.

The only bigger deal was Sir James Goldsmith's ultimately fruitless £13.4 billion punt for BAT Industries in 1989. While the previous record was set by Smithkline of America, which waded in with a £4.5 billion merger with Beecham Group in April 1989.

Philip Healey, editor and publisher of *Acquisitions Monthly*, said Glaxo's tilt dwarfed anything that has come before. "The theme is 'big' — big for the pharmaceuticals companies, who are all trying to get together." Lazards and Hoare Govett are advising Glaxo along with Financial Dynamics, the PR firm, and Clifford Chance. Wellcome is advised by Barings, Morgan Stanley and Cazenove.

The bid should boost Clifford Chance's ranking in *Acquisitions Monthly's* annual league table of takeover advisers; it was fifth last year.

Pennington, page 25
Market report, page 26
Diary and feature, page 27

Newmarch quits Pru after clashes with City regulators

By Robert Miller

MICK NEWMARCH last night quit as chief executive of Prudential Corporation, Britain's largest insurer, after the company admitted that his relationship with City regulators had broken down and that the Stock Exchange is investigating his dealings in the company's shares.

A terse statement from the Prudential said: "Mr Newmarch explained to the company's board that he found that the current relationship between the UK retail financial services regulators and both himself and the company has become unacceptable to him and he feels he is being put in an unacceptable position with regard to his position as chief executive of Prudential Corporation."

The statement added: "The Stock Exchange has asked a number of questions of the company relating to transactions in Prudential shares by Mr Newmarch last October."

This is understood to relate to a transaction on October 25, when Mr Newmarch exercised a share option just before it expired and sold shares in the company earning a profit of more than £200,000. He was subsequently granted options over a further 140,500 ordinary Prudential shares.

The transaction took place hours before a damning report on personal pensions mis-selling was published by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) and just two days before the company revealed a sharp downturn in new pensions business.

The Prudential said: "The company wishes to state that all transactions by Prudential directors or relevant employees are governed by the company's own rules, which comply fully with Stock Exchange requirements and best practice."

The terms of a compensation payment to Mr Newmarch, who was on a three-year rolling contract and last year earned £834,068, are under discussion. Mr Newmarch, who joined the Pru in 1955, last year took a stand against the Personal Investment Authority, the new regulator for companies selling investment products to the public. He refused to join it, opting for regulation by the SIB.

Last August it emerged that the Prudential was the subject of an informal investigation by Lautro, the then regulator for life companies, over the personal pension selling practices of its sales staff. The company said last night: "We are still in discussions with Lautro over its informal investigation." Sir Brian Corby, Prudential chairman, will take on Mr Newmarch's role until a chief executive is chosen.

Pennington, page 25

Newmarch: 40 years at Pru

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FT-SE 100	2954.2	(-40.8)
Yield	4.37%	
FT-SE A All share	1489.23	(-19.15)
Nikkei	17785.49	(-1054.73)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3843.86	(-25.57)*
S&P Composite	462.14	(-2.64)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	$5\frac{7}{16}$%*	($5\frac{5}{16}$%)
Long Bond	$95\frac{7}{32}$*	(95[illegible])
Yield	7.92%*	(7.90%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{21}{32}$%	($6\frac{19}{32}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	100[illegible]	($101\frac{1}{8}$)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.5955*	(1.5888)
London:		
$	1.5957	(1.5875)
DM	2.4116	(2.4011)
FFr	8.3460	(8.3130)
SFr	2.0242	(2.0195)
Yen	159.03	(157.80)
£ Index	80.1	(79.8)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.5116*	(1.5116)
FFr	5.2335*	(5.2335)
SFr	1.2583*	(1.2702)
Yen	99.72*	(99.42)
$ Index	62.5	(62.4)
Tokyo close Yen 99.93		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Apr)	$16.60	($16.65)
GOLD		
London close	$382.15	($383.85)

* denotes midday trading price

Cadbury confirms Dr Pepper talks

By Martin Waller, deputy city editor

CADBURY SCHWEPPES, the UK confectioner, has confirmed talks about a possible purchase of the outstanding 77 per cent of Dr Pepper, the US soft drinks group, but set rigid limits on what it will pay.

The statement came after a weekend of speculation sparked by reports from New York, where Dr Pepper is quoted, that the two were in merger talks. Cadbury said the cash payout for the remaining shares would be financed both by debt and equity.

The formal confirmation left Cadbury shares, in a soggy London market, down 12p to 389p. Dr Pepper is the third-biggest US soft drinks company, with 11 per cent of a $50 billion market, and the acquisition of the whole of the company would represent a significant expansion by Cadbury.

Although the British company stressed that "there can be no assurances" that talks would end in a definitive agreement to merge, analysts expect an announcement of an agreed bid later this week at about $33 a share. This would put a price on Cadbury's existing holding of 23 per cent, on a fully-diluted basis, of just over $500 million and value all of Dr Pepper at $2 billion.

Cadbury would also take on board debts of $830 million from Dr Pepper. The group put the stock market on warning that a rights issue of £500 million would be needed to help to fund the deal. But agreement will only take place as long as the purchase price would not dilute earnings for 1995 before reorganisation costs and would leave the company with interest cover of more than 4.5 times that year's profits.

Tempus, page 26

British economy still growing strongly

By Janet Bush
Economics correspondent

PREDICTIONS that the economy had slowed down in the last three months of 1994, as consumer demand weakened under the weight of higher interest rates and taxes, proved to be an illusion yesterday as figures were published which showed that growth matched that in the third quarter.

The Central Statistical Office said that gross domestic product increased by 0.8 per cent, the same rise as the previous quarter. This gave an annual growth rate against the final quarter of 1993 of 4 per cent, only a touch below the 4.1 per cent recorded in the third quarter.

Yesterday's preliminary figures suggested that growth in 1994 as a whole was 4 per cent — too fast in the Bank of England's view, to be sustainable. Together with figures last week showing higher than expected producer and retail price inflation, and a reasonable rise in retail sales in December, the argument for a base rate rise at the monthly meeting with the Chancellor on February 2 appears to be quite strong.

Nevertheless, there were some doubts about the picture painted by yesterday's figures. Services grew at around the same rate as in the third quarter, but growth in manufacturing was estimated to have been "markedly down" on the third quarter. Making up the difference, according to the CSO, was construction, which bounced back quite strongly from a very weak third quarter.

This contrasts with the studiously gloomy message yesterday from the UK Building Employers Confederation, which said output growth and inquiries for new work fell sharply in the fourth quarter, and that companies are increasingly gloomy.

In addition, yesterday's Gallup poll on consumer confidence found that, although consumers are feeling better about their household finances and the economic situation, pessimists still outnumber optimists. Gallup said it remains to be seen whether the improvement in confidence can be sustained.

The FT-SE 100 index fell 40.8 points to close at 2,954.2, on fears of higher interest rates. There was also a downward drag from Wall Street, which fell in sympathy with the hard-hit Nikkei index (Reports, page 26).

Janner might stand down in gas probe

By Melvyn Marckus, city editor

THE disclosure by *The Times* last Saturday that Greville Janner, QC, the Labour MP who heads the Commons Employment Select Committee, has a declared interest in a consultancy that advises British Gas, has added piquancy to today's hearing on executive pay.

Cedric Brown, chief executive of British Gas, is due to answer questions in respect of his £475,000 salary. Mr Janner, MP for Leicester West, lists that he is a director and shareholder of JSB Group, a consultancy firm which advises on "presentational skills". In a recent brochure, JSB names British Gas as a client.

Sir Kenneth Warren, former chairman of the Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry, said that a precedent regarding Mr Janner's predicament exists. Sir Kenneth pointed out that, during his chairmanship of the Trade and Industry Committee, he faced a one-day hearing on British Telecom, which was a client of a company of which he was a declared director.

According to Sir Kenneth: "The advice of the senior parliamentary staff I consulted was that the decision was entirely mine as to whether I remained in the chair, but they could see that it would be sensible to ensure that no conflict of interest could be considered to exist." In the event, Sir Kenneth chose to withdraw from the chair.

Speculation in Westminster had it that Mr Janner might consider vacating the chair for Mr Brown's evidence, but not for evidence from other industrialists. But if a chairman is in the committee room he must take the chair.

Turning up the beat, page 27

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Rate rise 'could kill building recovery'

By Carl Mortished

THE fragile recovery in the building sector is in jeopardy, with construction companies facing a year of falling growth in output, slim margins and *fewer jobs. Builders* warned the Government that further rises in interest rates could worsen the deteriorating outlook for the industry.

Sir Brian Hill, president of the Building Employers Confederation, said *construction industry output* was expected to grow only 1-2 per cent in 1995, almost half the 1994 estimated growth rate. Presenting the BEC's fourth quarter state of trade figures, he painted a grim picture of falling inquiries for new work and severe overcapacity. He has written to the Chancellor "to emphasise the serious damage any further rise in interest rates would cause".

Sir Brian said hardest hit were small builders who dominate the domestic repair market, which *accounts for 20 per cent of* UK construction.

Almost a third of firms recorded fewer enquiries than in the previous quarter and 20 per cent of respondents to the BEC survey said they were operating at less than half their capacity. The full impact of cuts in social housing and infrastructure spending in the last Budget had yet to be felt, Sir Brian said.

Industry output figures for the last quarter of 1994 showed a disappointing slowdown, with 86 per cent of firms indicating output remained at the same level or decreased. The BEC estimates 1994 output growth was 2.6 per cent, well below predictions of 4 per cent after a strong recovery in the first half.

Tempus, page 26
Philip Bassett, page 27

ROBIN MAYES

Putting you through: Inmarsat executives Jai Singh, left, Olof Lundberg, centre, and Ramin Khadem

Treasury and DTI unite against free Post Office

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

GREATER commercial freedom for the Post Office is "inconsistent" with the Government's strict control over public finances, the Department of Trade and Industry and the Treasury will announce tomorrow.

The statement will form the clearest possible rejection of the Post Office's repeated calls for a new financial framework to allow it to compete with increasing domestic and international postal services.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, will be questioned tomorrow on the future of the Post Office when he appears before the Commons' all-party Trade and Industry Select Committee.

Labour yesterday attacked his rejection of a new framework, which was contained in a letter to the committee reported by *The Times*. Dr Jack Cunningham, shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, said Mr Heseltine was "deliberately sabotaging" the future of the Post Office.

The extent of the Government's rejection is made clear in a document prepared for the committee hearing. Significantly, it comes not just from the DTI, the Post Office's sponsoring department, but also from the Treasury.

While it says the Government is still considering the way forward for the Post Office after the decision to abandon privatisation, it says: "The Government does not believe that it could responsibly give the business the far-reaching commercial freedoms it is seeking while it retains the very substantial advantages of public sector ownership in the hugely competitive communications market."

The DTI and Treasury document discloses that the Government has considered how far it could amend the Post Office's existing financial regime by relaxing specific controls. These have included freeing the Post Office from its overall capital expenditure limit, allowing it greater freedom to reinvest retained profits; introducing greater flexibility of its external financing limit, and replacing the Royal Mail's efficiency targets with direct control over prices.

But the paper says: "The Government sees serious difficulties in freeing the Post Office from all controls as long as it remains in the public sector. Such an approach would be inconsistent with the Government maintaining strict control over public finances."

While the Post Office remained in the public sector, "the business would be effectively protected from failure, as any commercial losses would be funded by the taxpayer", giving it an "unjustified advantage" in new commercial activities against competitors.

While the Government accepts there is scope for some commercial flexibility for the Post Office through its Private Finance Initiative, it considers this limited, and says "the changes that would be possible within the public sector would fall short of the commercial needs of the Royal Mail." The departments say any changes for the Post Office would mean alterations to the "standard control regime" for nationalised industries in general.

Funding on course for telephone satellite

By Eric Reguly

INMARSAT, a 76-country satellite communications co-operative, has raised $1.4 billion of the $2.8 billion cost of launching a satellite phone system by the end of the decade.

The $1.4 billion represents the total equity requirements for the project, based in London, for the next three years. Merrill Lynch International, the group's financial adviser, eventually hopes to raise another $600 million from "strategic" investors such as satellite makers, and about $800 million in debt.

The project is being directed through an affiliate called Inmarsat-P, whose new investors include more than three dozen telecoms groups and agencies from around the world. They include DeTeMobil of Germany, the mobile-phone arm of Deutsche Telekom, Swiss Telecom PTT, Samsung Electronics of Korea and Comsat Corporation, a US entertainment and satellite communications group.

Inmarsat is also an investor. The co-operative, through its 76 owners, including British Telecom, has committed $150 million.

Olof Lundberg, Inmarsat's director-general, said Inmarsat-P had to turn away equity subscribers. "The number and prominence of the investors demonstrates the overwhelming support and confidence of the telecommunications world in the in the programme."

Inmarsat-P's strong government contingent is expected to help the group to overcome regulatory hurdles. Service providers in each country, for example, will have to receive operating licences before they can sign up customers.

Subscribers will be able to use a wireless phone, no larger than portable handsets in use today, to call anywhere in the world. Inmarsat-P said satellite communications charges are likely to cost $2 a minute, and the handset about $1,000.

Its successful financing raises the stakes in the race to provide satellite phones. No fewer than three other consortiums have similar plans.

Pensions fight goes to the High Court

THE legal powers of City watchdogs are to be challenged in the High Court today when *independent financial advisers* seek a judicial review of the proposed guidelines for identifying investors who were mis-sold personal pensions. A ruling is expected within ten days. If successful, it could result in a delay in compensation payments to many investors.

The IFA Association, a trade body representing independent financial advisers, yesterday launched the Transfer Review Action Campaign, claiming that it was "grossly" unreasonable and outside the law to expect its members to write to clients who were advised to transfer or opt out of an existing or former occupational pension scheme. This was an invitation to investors to sue their financial advisers and would invalidate advisers' professional indemnity insurance. The Personal Investment Authority will finish considering compensation guidelines laid down by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief city regulator, this Friday. A PIA spokesman said: "We are minded to accept the SIB guidelines, with certain modifications."

Very plastic Christmas

CHRISTMAS shoppers spent £6.7 billion on their credit and debit cards last month, up 24 per cent on December 1993. Supermarkets and other food retailers did particularly well as shoppers spent £3.9 billion on their credit cards, a rise of 18 per cent on December 1993, and £2.8 billion on debit cards, up 27 per cent. Gift stores *did well too, with spending in* jewellers, florists, bookshops and record stores up 40 per cent at £1.14 billion. But in department stores credit and debit card spending was up a more modest 7 per cent. Total credit card spending last year was up 13 per cent to £36 billion, while debit card spending was up 25 per cent at £22 billion.

JJB set to beat forecast

JJB SPORTS, Britain's largest independent sports retailer, following buoyant trading expects to beat the profit forecast made at the time of its flotation last November. David Whelan, the chairman and former Blackburn Rovers player who founded the chain, said sales in the 48 weeks to January 1 were 44 per cent higher than the same period last year. Like-for-like sales were 14 per up. As a result, he expects pre-tax profits for the year to January 31 will comfortably exceed the £6.6 million forecast in the run-up to the flotation. Robert Miller, of Charterhouse Tilney, has pencilled in £7.5 million. The shares rose 5p to 246p, well up on the 215p flotation price.

Sale windfall for Forte

FORTE will raise £140 million from the sale of its 24 per cent in Gardner Merchant, the catering services business, to Sodexho, the French caterer. The cash will help to ease Forte's debts, which were more than £1 billion at the half-year end in September. A formal agreement for Sodexho to buy Gardner Merchant was signed at the weekend, and contracts have now been exchanged for the purchase of Forte's holding. The investment was expected to earn £9 million in the current financial year and has a book value of £80 million. The deal is conditional on the buyer successfully raising the cash purchase price of £543 million for Gardner Merchant. **Tempus, page 26**

Levy Gee joins CKL

LEVY GEE, the UK's 20th largest accountancy firm, has joined the international accounting network of CKL, bringing to an end the current round of musical chairs among worldwide accountancy groups. Michael Comvissar, the chairman of CKL, which until the UK firm of Clark Whitehill left used to be known as Clark Kenneth Leventhal, said that *CKL, now the 14th biggest such organisation worldwide*, was "an important element in allowing clients to expand and go cross border". Binder Hamlyn, Stoy Hayward, Clark Whitehill and Levy Gee have been jockeying for a share of international business.

Tarmac wins contract

TARMAC *has won a major civil engineering contract for* the £110 million Derby southern bypass. The 19-kilometre dual carriageway is a key part of the Stoke-on-Trent to Derby link, joining the M6 with the M1. It is designed to ease traffic congestion within Derby and a number of south Derbyshire villages. Construction of the bypass is due to be completed in 1997. The award by the Highways Agency comes just a week after the professional services division of the Wolverhampton-based group was appointed to manage the construction of the £150 million redevelopment of London's Royal Opera House.

Disruption hits Seacon

DISRUPTION caused by a new port development affected profits at Seacon, the shipping and port services company. In the year to September 30 pre-tax profits fell to £937,000 from £1.7 million. Earnings fell to 2.5p a share from 4.61p. There is a final dividend of 1.43p a share, making a total of 2.4p (2.28p). The shares eased 1p to 92p. The decline was blamed on the new Northfleet terminal. Results were hurt by temporarily increased costs and reduced operational efficiency during construction and running in. There was also a reduction of some £470,000 in net interest received as a direct result of the capital expenditure on the project.

LDV offers staff 10% pay rise

By A Correspondent

MORE than 1,000 workers at LDV — formerly Leyland DAF Vans — were yesterday offered *an inflation-busting two-year* pay deal worth 10 per cent. Sources said the offer would take the existing weekly rate, which includes a profit-related pay element, for a track worker from £234 to £248 this year. The second phase of the deal would see this figure increase to about £258 a week.

Under the plan, employees will receive 5 per cent on basic rates in 1995 and 4 per cent or the inflation rate — whichever is greater — the following year. LDV was rescued from receivership in a management buyout in 1993 after the collapse of its Dutch parent.

The proposal follows two-year deals worth more than 10 per cent at Rover and almost 8 per cent at Jaguar. Peugeot workers are to hold a strike ballot after rejecting a two-year deal worth 7.5 per cent.

Golden Rose tunes in for cash

By Philip Pangalos

GOLDEN Rose Communications, the commercial radio group whose shares are cur*rently traded on a matched* bargain basis under the Stock Exchange's Rule 4.2, will raise between £5 million and £6 million when it moves to a full listing next month.

Golden Rose, which operates two radio stations, JFM 102.2 in London and Manchester-based JFM 100.4, is planning to launch a third radio station, Viva! 963, targeted at women aged between 25 and 44. David Maker, chief executive, said: "The placing will provide additional capital to enable ther group to develop Viva! 963 and expand its radio activities further in the UK."

Golden Rose made an operating loss, including marketing and start-up costs, of £1.9 million in the year to September 30. Henry Cooke, Lumsden has been appointed broker.

Workers 'want to retire before 60'

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

THREE-QUARTERS of the UK workforce want to retire before the age of 60, according to a new survey today from a leading trade union, which suggests that it shows the Government's pensions legislation being debated by Parliament is out of touch with what people want over retirement.

The House of Lords will today give a second reading to the Government's Pensions Bill, which equalises the state pension at the age of 65 and sets in place new procedures over pensions following the Maxwell pension scandal.

In advance of that, new survey evidence today from the MSF general technical union, which is headed by Roger Lyons, of more than 420 public and private sector workplaces, covering 140,000 workers, shows that 74 per cent want to retire before the age of 60, and a further fifth when they are 60. Only 2 per cent want to retire at 65.

Mr Lyons says: "The Government's view that we should all retire later is nonsensical.

Lyons: 'nonsensical'

A separate union analysis of the Pensions Bill, prepared by the TUC, says that at least some people will end up with less protection and could lose all pension rights above the basic state retirement pension, in spite of lifetime contributions to an occupational scheme.

The TUC says this "glaring loophole" is caused by a combination of the Bill's abolition of Guaranteed Minimum Pension and the extremely tight criteria that must be met before the Bill's compensation arrangements are triggered.

GA boosted by pensions

GENERAL Accident announced an increase of £300,000 in its annual premium pension business to £7.8 million in 1994. Single premium pension business rose more sharply to £138 million against £97.9 million previously. The single premium business was boosted by a £56.9 million contribution from new investment products aimed at pension scheme trustees.

Total new business at General Accident on annual premiums in 1994 rose to £53.8 million from £52.8 million, while total single premium business increased to £569.8 million compared with £350.3 million last time.

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.00
Austria Sch	17.90	16.40
Belgium Fr	52.48	48.18
Canada $	2.358	2.196
Cyprus Cyp£	0.780	0.725
Denmark Kr	10.08	9.28
Finland Mkk	7.99	7.34
France Fr	8.75	8.10
Germany Dm	2.56	2.35
Greece Dr	395.00	370.00
Hong Kong $	12.90	11.90
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Italy Lira	2615.00	2480.00
Japan Yen	173.00	157.00
Malta	0.618	0.583
Netherlds Gld	2.844	2.614
Norway Kr	11.09	10.29
Portugal Esc	258.50	240.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.36
Spain Pta	216.00	202.00
Sweden Kr	12.38	11.58
Switzerland Fr	2.15	1.97
Turkey Lira	refer	61600.0
USA $	1.692	1.552

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

ACCORD ENERGY LIMITED

Take Notice that Accord Energy Limited is applying for a Private Electricity Licence in the following terms:
1. Full name of the applicant:

ACCORD ENERGY LIMITED

2. Address of the applicant or in the case of a body corporate, the registered or principal office:
152 Grosvenor Road, London SW1V 3JL.
3. Where the applicant is a company, the full names of the current Directors and the company's registered number:
[illegible]
4. Where a holding of 20 per cent or more of the shares (see Note 1) of an applicant is held by a body corporate or partnership or an unincorporated association carrying on a trade or business with or without a view to profit, the name(s) and address(es) of the holder(s) of such shares shall be provided:
British Gas plc
Registered Office: Rivermill House, 152 Grosvenor Road, London SW1V 3JL
N.G.C. UK Limited
41 Vine Street
London EC3N 2AA
5. Desired date from which the licence is to take effect: 1 March 1995
6. A sufficient description adequately specifying the nature and situation of the premises intended to be supplied, separately identifying premises within the power bands specified in and to the extent provided by paragraph 7 below:
All premises of British Gas plc and its subsidiaries with a demand of greater than 100kW in the following REC areas:

Northern Electric plc	Yorkshire Electricity plc
NORWEB plc	East Midlands Electricity plc
MANWEB plc	Eastern Group plc
Midlands Electricity plc	London Electricity plc
SWALEC plc	SEEBOARD plc
South Western Electricity plc	Southern Electric plc

7. (a) Subject to sub-paragraph (b) indicate the total number of premises intended to be supplied in each power band as shown in the table below, together with the aggregate energy forecast to be supplied and the aggregate estimated maximum demand for each power band.
(b) If the date in paragraph 5 above is on or after 1st April 1994 then only Power Band A shall be completed and if the said date is on or after 1st April 1998 then this paragraph shall cease to have effect.

[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

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☐ Wellcome faces unwelcome logic ☐ Prudential loses its chief ☐ REC relies on triple strategy

Glaxo takes up the challenge

☐ *THE GOOD* news is that Glaxo's record bid for Wellcome would create a healthy, British world leader in an industry where the old country earns its prominent place at top table. Glaxo intends to keep it. The *more chastening news is that* the move is defensive, even though both companies are coining *money*. Hence the seemingly strange choice of Wellcome.

Glaxo's Zantac, the blockbuster of blockbusters in the drug world, is nearing the end of its patent life. So why team up with Wellcome, which has an uncannily similar problem with Zovirax, and fewer promising new products to replace it? Sir Richard Sykes, new head of Britain's top pharmaceuticals group, reckons Glaxo knows the problem and is having more success dealing with it. It should therefore not hinder his purpose: to buy market share affordably.

Wellcome is available, if the High Court allows the Wellcome Trust to deliver. Its share price is notoriously volatile. It is the biggest rival Glaxo reckons it can afford, not least because accounting rules would virtually wipe out Glaxo's £5.2 billion shareholders' funds. And it offers the best prospect for cost savings. Product ranges are complementary but research and marketing territories duplicate heavily.

Glaxo is hardly bid-happy. Its last British takeover was in the 1960s. Only an ambitious vision has overcome caution. As Sir Richard agrees, buying another company *earning profits of £700* million a year — one of Britain's top growth companies in its own *right* — *is essentially only* a building block. The world pharmaceutical industry is *changing* fast as governments and insurance companies attack the rising cost of curing more *people of more afflictions. Prices* will come under ever-stronger pressure, through choosing more *generics, avoiding* new patent drugs unless they offer a big advance and using buying *power to force prices* lower.

How should the drug companies respond? Some of Glaxo's top competitors *have opted for* vertical integration, buying expensively into America's new generation drug-buying disease management companies. Others have eyed the over-the-counter-market, to exploit brand names to ensure a profitable life after patent in a market where pressure will grow for more consumers to be allowed to follow Japan and buy direct.

Glaxo appears unsure which way *the wind* will *eventually* blow. But it has a third vision. If the industry is to be driven by *customers* instead of producers, then it will surely follow other multinational industries where a *few global players* dominate.

If the top five control most of the airline and car markets, Sir Richard muses, why should the top five drug firms have less than 20 per cent? If Glaxo ensures it remains the world leader with 5.3 per cent, it is well placed for the industry's consolidation, or *to pursue other strategies later*. Wellcome, thinking itself safe, will find it hard to resist.

Regulators pot rogue elephant

PENNINGTON

☐ IN THE financial world of the 1990s, *you could not get much* more politically incorrect than Mick Newmarch, the forceful *chief executive of the Prudential*. He refused to co-operate with the Government and the City establishment. *Confident that he was* steering a sound, clean ship, he treated inquiring regulators as tiresome enemies. His pay package and lengthy contract did not fit the modern approved mode. He made enemies and, seeing *little need to justify the outward* appearance of actions he regarded as perfectly proper, provided them with *ammunition*. Inevitably, perhaps, the new breed of regulators, bureaucrats and City *politicos* have finally potted the man they saw as the ultimate rogue elephant.

Mr Newmarch knew he had done a good job, both as investment manager and later as chief *executive of Britain's* largest *life* assurance company. He has taken tough actions to undo *mistakes, slip the past and slim* the Pru into a powerful marketing force for tomorrow's investment markets. Used to calling the *shots in the biggest companies*, he did not expect to kow-tow.

Unfortunately for him, these *included influential, politically* astute figures. For them, Mr Newmarch's ultimate sin was to reject the Personal Investment Authority. He damned it, rightly. Its prospectus was neither public regulation nor self-regulation but an unsatisfactory political compromise. Still worse, he then refused to have anything to do with it, opting, as he legally could, to be ruled by the Securities and Investments Board.

Right as might be, Mr Newmarch badly misread what *was happening*. The Government demanded faster action from the City to control bad *practice and charged Andrew* Large, head of the SIB, with delivering. The City resolved to pay the price, *even if others* loathed the details of the PIA. Regulators have never given up *trying to persuade the Prudential* board, if not Mr Newmarch, to change its mind. Sir Denis *Rooke, a comparable figure at* British Gas, found it does not pay to patronise regulators. Mr Newmarch made badly timed *share deals and Stock Exchange* statements. The Pru was not flawless in selling policies. *Without Big Mick*, expect an ever-so-humble Prudential to fall into line.

Northern powers up its defence

☐ THIS is still the phoney war between Northern Electric and Trafalgar House, before the decision over a Monopolies and *Mergers Commission* reference is taken, but the general drive of Northern's projected defence is becoming clear.

This might best be summed up as bribery, strategic alliance and *innuendo. The last first:* there are some dark mutterings, much of them entirely justified, about *Trafalgar's corporate structure*, its biggest shareholder Jardine Matheson's Bermuda base and *the rather complex network of* executives that control the two companies and other arms of the *Keswick empire. Is a company* that does not always comply with the Cadbury code good enough to run a public utility?, Northern *appears to be asking*.

The strategic alliance relates to the putative, potential "white knight" that might rescue the *company, if such rescue is eventually* needed. Takeover rules mean any such party can easily *wait until the future course of the* bid is clearer. Northern, whose terminological room for manoeuvre *is heavily circumscribed* by those same rules, says merely that a possible rescuer had made informal *contact*.

The obvious candidate is Yorkshire Electricity, under possible takeover threat itself, speculators think, from Hanson. But this suggestion looks wide of the mark; a better punt might be Scottish Power, also sharing a border with Northern and *keener than Yorkshire to expand* geographically.

As to bribery, a wise observer reading between the *lines of* yesterday's defence document might expect some goodies to be *on offer* later in the battle, but timed so they would only become available if the company is not *taken over. Expect, therefore*, some sort of special dividend, share consolidation or perhaps a *further share buy-back, following* the 10 per cent Northern has already bought, to be wheeled *out once the company needs* some serious ammunition. Shareholders should hang on.

Northern Electric hints at possible white knights

By Eric Reguly

NORTHERN Electric, which yesterday released a defence document urging shareholders to reject Trafalgar House's bid, said it had received calls from potential white knights but said no formal discussions were underway.

"There are a lot of players in the field, so it wouldn't be surprising if one got the odd phone call," *said David Morris*, Northern's chairman.

He said he did not initiate *the calls, which were handled* by SG Warburg, Northern's adviser. "We would very much like to remain an independent company," he said.

None of the calls are *thought to have come from the* regional electricity companies in England and Wales. Analysts continue to play down the possibility of competing bid. They said there's little reason for an acquisitor to compete with Trafalgar's £1.2-billion bid when 11 other electricity companies are available.

Northern's defence document *contains little new. Its* main argument is that Trafalgar's offer of £8.48 a share, *excluding its* 6.5 per cent stake in the National Grid, contains no premium and *significantly undervalues the company*. The £8.48 represents a multiple of 10 times last year's earnings, Northern said, compared to 19 for the companies in the FT-SE Mid-120 index. It also *said the so-called Grids*, the optional £2-a-share Trafalgar bonds that can be converted into *shares* of the National Grid when it is floated, are of questionable value.

Northern will release details on how it intends to boost shareholder value on *on* February 17. Options include paying a special dividend and *buying back shares*.

Mr Morris said he hopes the bid will go to the Monopo*lies Commission to examine* public-interest issues, including whether a "financially *stretched predator*" like Trafalgar "should be able to take advantage of Northern Elec*tric's strength to the detriment* of the customer".

Northern, at Trafalgar's re*quest, has called an extraordinary* general meeting for February 17. Shareholders will *vote to remove a company* rule, which Trafalgar has called a poison pill, that *prevents any one shareholder* from owning more than 15 per cent of the shares.

Trafalgar *said Northern's* references to Trafalgar's financial strength and its call for an MMC inquiry on public-interest grounds "are no more than a smokescreen". *Nigel Rich, Trafalgar's chief* executive, said criticising the value of the Grids carries little weight because shareholders do not have to accept them. "If you do not want the Grids, take the cash," *he said*. "If you want to continue to own regional electricity companies, take the cash and *buy others*; they are all trading at significantly lower prices."

See Pennington, this page

Morris: received calls

Ranald Noel-Paton, left, and John Menzies, chairman, say that the deal by rival WH Smith will hit distribution profits

Figures for Menzies up at halfway

JOHN MENZIES yesterday admitted a new distribution deal between WH Smith and News International, parent company of *The Times*, would adversely affect profits from its distribution division (Susan Gilchrist writes).

Ranald Noel-Paton, John Menzies' managing director, said the new agreement would mean that its share of News International business would fall from 24 per cent to about 18 per cent. WH Smith will see its share rise from 12 per cent to 18-19 per cent.

However, Mr Noel-Paton said *the reduction* would not be material to group profits. His remarks came as the *group, chaired by John Menzies*, reported a 16 per cent pretax profits rise to £7.3 million *(£6.3 million) in the* six months to October 29. Sales were virtually static at £575.4 *million. The interim is* lifted to 4.6p (4.1p). Tempus, page 26

IBM returns to annual profits

From Sean Mac Carthaigh in New York

IBM, the world's largest *computer maker*, made an annual profit last year for the first time since 1990, and easily *beat analysts'* forecasts with fourth-quarter earnings of $1.2 billion. In *spite of this, Louis Gerstner*, chief executive, said he was dissatisfied and wanted *more revenue growth*.

Profit came to $2.06 per share for the October to December *quarter, compared* with 62 cents a share, or $362 million, for the 1993 *period. Analysts had* predicted a profit of about $1.75 per share. Revenue for the *quarter was $19.9 billion, up* from $19.4 billion a year ago. Excluding the proceeds *of the sale of its Federal Sys*tems subsidiary counted in the last 1993 quarter, revenue *rose 6.6 per cent, from* $18.7 billion. Sales were higher in all world regions except Latin America.

For the year, IBM earned $2.88 billion, or $4.92 per share, compared with a loss of $8.1 billion, or $14.02 per share, in 1993 after it took a second-quarter restructuring charge of almost $8 billion. Not including the Federal Systems sale, revenue was $64.1 billion, up six per cent from $60.4 billion. Revenues in Europe rose 8 per cent to $7.6 billion.

The computer giant re*ported* that demand for its large, mainframe computers and storage products far *outstripped supply*, but that it was disappointed by the weakness in its personal computer business. The company added that it had completed close to four fifths of its $8 billion expense reduction goal.

Over the past few years IBM has cut tens of thousands of jobs and shed unneeded office space and factories. In 1993 45,000 were fired, while last year 35,000 employees went. It *now has 220,000 workers*.

IBM ended the year with marketable cash and securities of *$10.6 billion, up $3.4* billion from 1993.

New award for market developer

A NEW award, *recognising an* outstanding contribution to the PLC market, will be inaugurat*ed at the 1994 PLC Awards* (Martin Barrow writes).

Nominations are being *sought for the first recipient of* the award, which will pay tribute to a City professional *who has had a significant* influence in the development of the London stock market.

Graham Cole, the Coopers & Lybrand partner who masterminds the awards each year, *said: "This new award is designed* to honour someone who is still very active in the City *and participating in the development* of the PLC market."

The PLC Awards are held in *association with The Times*. The voting panel is meeting today to consider a list of *candidates for company of the* year and new company of the year. Voting forms will be published in *The Times* next month. The share of the year award goes to Hawtal Whiting, the engineering services company, whose shares rose to 220p from 43p, a 411 per cent rise. Last year, Rotork, the specialist engineer, was company of the year, and Roxboro *Group, the maker of electronic* components, was new company of the year.

2001 is target for a finish to office space odyssey

Clarke invites offers for Treasury

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, will today offer private property developers the chance to acquire part of the Treasury in *return* for funding the refurbishment of the department's Whitehall building.

Mr Clarke will *disclose that* the *Treasury* is to be the latest candidate for its own Private Finance Initiative, the programme under which the private sector *funds* specific projects in partnership with the public sector.

The Portland stone building, which forms one side *of Parliament* Square with a frontage on to Whitehall, was found last year to have serious structural problems. Rather than place the *burden* of refurbishment on the public purse, Mr Clarke will tell the PFI's annual meeting that he has decided to put forward the refurbishment plan, *likely to cost* between £100 *million* and £200 million, as an "early" PFI project.

In return for bearing the cost and risk of *providing new* high-tech office accommodation, the selected developer will have available about half of the site to turn *into an office* block commanding premium rents. While details of the scheme are still being examined, options include retaining the *freehold and giving* the developers a long lease or even selling the freehold. The Treasury would expect a favourable, long-term *lease in* return.

Proposals would have to take into account the fact that the Treasury's headquarters, designed by architect John Brydon *and unmodernised* since it was fully opened in 1917, it is a grade II listed building. English Heritage has already been consulted and is "not alarmed" because all the guidelines it suggested have been accepted. A *shortlist* will be selected in May and invited to tender for the work, with an appointment made in October. After a two-year *period of* design and planning applications, the Treasury would vacate and building work would begin, with the aim of it being ready for reoccupation by the end of 2001.

Mr Clarke said: "We are seeking to push the PFI right across the public sector and *into new areas. This includes* the Treasury itself. This major project opens up a new area of business for the PFI — *that of Government accommodation*."

Mr Clarke will tell the PFI conference, which will also be addressed by Sir Alastair Morton, its chairman, and Howard Davies, Director-General of the CBI, that new PFI projects amount to £1 billion, on top of the £5 billion-worth of *projects already on* target for this year.

AN ALLIANCE FOR LEADERSHIP, QUALITY AND GROWTH

The Alliance between Gardner Merchant and Sodexho, whilst trading separately, will bring together two highly regarded international organisations. The two companies will, in combination, constitute the largest company of its kind in contract catering and hold a leading position in all the key markets for contract food services.

This unique Alliance will continue to invest in the training of its people, and the quality of its food service operations and systems, to ensure that a platform for enhanced growth is secured throughout the world.

Maintaining the separate identity and development of the two companies, pursuing their activities in similar markets, but exhibiting particular strengths in different parts of the world, will produce the best opportunities for all. The retention of the individual names and identities of the two companies will reflect their different cultural strengths.

Gardner Merchant and Sodexho will dovetail together into the perfect fit.

Gardner Merchant will, in contract food services represent the Alliance in the UK, Ireland, Holland, Australasia, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Sodexho will, on its own, represent the Alliance in France, Spain, Italy, Finland, Southern Central and Eastern Europe, Africa, South and Central America and The Middle East.

In other countries, both companies will continue to operate as separate entities.

Kelvin will continue to operate throughout the world as a separate entity under the auspices of Gardner Merchant. Remote Site Services will continue in a similar mode and be controlled by Sodexho.

For any proposed development in a new country the most appropriate member of the Alliance in terms of cultural strength will be the appropriate operator.

Gardner Merchant will maintain an independent Board comprising 5 Gardner Merchant Senior Executives, 4 from Sodexho, and 3 external Non-Executive Directors. Gardner Merchant's Chief Executive, Garry Hawkes, will become Chairman and Chief Executive of Gardner Merchant, will join the Board of Directors of Sodexho, and will be named Directeur Général (Managing Director) of Sodexho, alongside Patrice Douce, also Directeur Général of the Group.

Vive la Difference

GARDNER MERCHANT
World Service

هكذا من الاصل

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Glaxo bid for Wellcome fails to halt share slide

NOT even the emergence of Britain's biggest takeover could whet investors' appetites with share prices remaining in freefall as the spectre of higher interest rates continued to hang over the Square Mile. The London stock market took its cue from hefty losses for investors overnight in the Far East, where Tokyo tumbled more than 1,000 points and there was renewed weakness in Hong Kong.

The FT-SE 100 index lost ground at the outset and apart from a couple of half-hearted rallies never looked like making up the lost ground. An opening fall of more than 25 points in the Dow Jones average on Wall Street, in resumed dealing after the weekend break, left the index with a deficit of 40.8 at 2,954.2, having been more than 45 points lower at one stage.

Brokers said that the equity market fall would have been even greater had it not been for the sharp rise in the **Wellcome** share price, equivalent to a 15 point gain in the index, following the offer from **Glaxo.** This comfortably countered the fall in the Glaxo price, equal to five points.

Nomura's Nick Knight forecasts further falls to 2,500

Meanwhile, Nick Knight, super bear equity market strategist at Nomura, was doing his level best to talk share prices lower again. He told a presentation of institutional investors that he remained negative about prospects for the equity market over the next few months. He claims there is further scope for falls, with the FT-SE 100 dropping as low as 2,500, although his year-end forecast remains unchanged at 3,200. Nomura is continuing to urge clients to keep 30 per cent of their portfolios in cash and 40 per cent in bonds, with just minimal exposure to the equity market.

Naturally enough, Glaxo's near £9 billion bid for Wellcome, highlighted in this column on Friday, dominated early proceedings. Confirmation of the deal sent the Wellcome share price surging 273p to 961p, compared with the terms from Glaxo valuing it at £10.25. Glaxo is offering £722 in cash and 47 new Glaxo shares for every 100 Wellcome shares.

Wellcome urged shareholders to take no action even though the Wellcome Trust has already pledged its 39.5 per cent stake in the company. Glaxo says it does not intend to increase the terms unless a competing bid emerges. Glaxo intends to finance the deal through a combination of new shares and increased bank borrowings. Glaxo fell 45½p to 598p.

Cadbury Schweppes, the soft drinks and confectionery group, fell 13p to 388p after confirming recent City speculation that it was in talks with Dr Pepper, the US Soft drinks group, about making an offer for the 75 per cent of the company it does not already own. It is believed that such a deal is likley to cost Cadbury $1.5 billion, giving it 16 per cent of the American soft drinks market. Cadbury held talks with Dr Pepper sometime ago but failed to agree terms. Dealers say the deal is likely to be funded in part by a rights issue on the basis of one-for-six at 350p.

Other companies regarded as potential bid targets were chased higher. **SG Warburg**, the merchant bank which broke off merger talks recently with US rival Morgan Stanley, stood out with a rise of 5p to 736 in a falling market. Brokers are convinced that another bid approach is on the cards. There is also talk that Warburg is close to selling off part of its holding in its separately quoted associate **Mercury Asset Management**, up 8p at 757p. Mercury turned out to be the stumbling block to the Morgan Stanley merger after standing out for better terms.

There were gains for other companies in the pharmaceutical sector which are seen as vulnerable to a bid. **Zeneca** *rose 25p to 917p, and* **Fisons** *3p* to 108p.

Northern Electric marked time at 980p as it stepped up its defence against the unwanted £1.2 billion offer from **Trafalgar House**. It described the bid as wholly inadequate and unacceptable. David Morris, Northern's chairman, said shareholders were not being given adequate compensation for the substantial value that Trafalgar could extract from a merger. Trafalgar finished 2p easier at 67p.

Ladbroke eased 3p to 164p with the sale of its Texas Homecare DIY chain now looking imminent. The group has been in talks with **J. Sainsbury**, 4p off at 413p, which wants to buy the bulk of the 240-strong chain to merge it with its Homebase stores. It has been suggested that Ladbroke was originally asking £300 million for the stores *but this now looks on the high* side. **Rank Organisation**, down 7p at 378p, is being tipped to buy the rump.

Abbey National fell 8p to 421p as one stockbroker switched its recommendation from undervalued to a hold. It is also urging clients to switch into **TSB**, 4p lower at 223½p.

BT finished 7p down at 387½p in line with the rest of the market. Figures are due out later this week from AT&T, which traders say could signal a move by BT to proceed with the disposal of its stake in the company estimated to be worth £1 billion.

☐ **GILT EDGED:** Gilts opened lower in reaction to a weak dollar and renewed selling of US Treasury bonds and German bunds. Dealers described trading conditions as thin, with investors reluctant to open fresh positions ahead of tomorrow's auction.

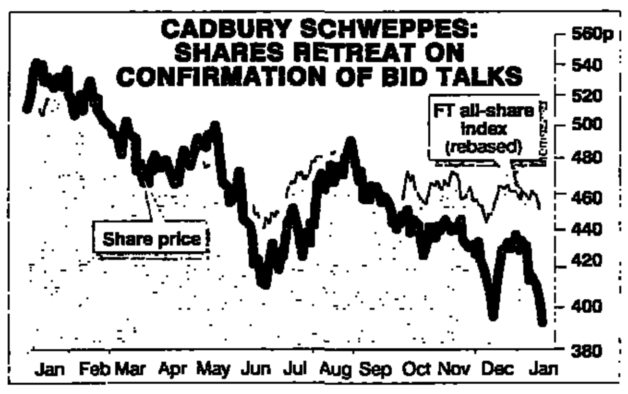
In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt finished £$^{17}/_{32}$ off at £100$^{19}/_{32}$ as 39,000 contracts were completed.

The longer end of the market bore the brunt of losses among conventional issues. Treasury 8 per cent 2013 lost £$^{21}/_{32}$ at £94$^{5}/_{16}$, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 eased £¼ to £97$^{1}/_{32}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Uncertainty over the rescue package for Mexico and Tokyo market's big fall saw share prices drop on Wall Street. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 25.57 points at 3,843.86.

Kleinwort Benson has attempted to put retailers' Christmas trading into perspective. Buy Burton, ½p off at 68½p, Dixons, down 4p to 196p, MFI, 1p off at 123p, Marks and Spencer, 5p down at 376p, and Sears, 1p off at 99½p. Sell GUS, 9p down at 513p, House Of Fraser, 3p off at 163p, and Kingfisher, 6p off at 393p.

CADBURY SCHWEPPES: SHARES RETREAT ON CONFIRMATION OF BID TALKS



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	3843.86 (-25.57)
S&P Composite	462.14 (-2.64)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	17785.49 (-1054.73)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	6967.93 (-310 17)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	405.05 (-5.71)

Sydney:

AO	1861 8 (-16.6)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2026.83 (-28.75)

Singapore:

Straits	1916.94 (-111.67)

Brussels:

General	7057.01 (-52.19)

Paris:

CAC-40	1772.84 (-40.49)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	625.20 (-13.40)

London:

FT 30	2238.3 (-42.6)
FT 100	2954.2 (-40.8)
FT-SE Mid 250	3384.3 (-40.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1291.62 (-22.20)
FT A All-Share	1469.23 (-19.15)
FT Non Financials	1600.89 (-17.15)
FT Gold Mines	208.82 (-1.18)
FT Fixed Interest	109.20 (-0.09)
FT Govt Secs	90.57 (-0.26)
Bargains	23573
SEAQ Volume	623.0m
USM (Datastrm)	146.37 (-0.57)
US$	1.5950 (+0.0048)
German Mark	2.4077 (+0.0086)
Exchange Index	80.1 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2644
£:SDR	1.0762
RPI	146.0 Dec (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Asset Mngmnt Inv (100)	99	...
Caledn Media Wts	6½	...
Clydeport	156	-6
First Russ Front ($10)	570	-15
Gart Micro Index (500)	510	...
Hill Hire	104	+1
Kiln Capital (100)	100	...
Lazard Birla Ida	52	-½
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	30½	-¼
MCIT S Cap (35)	34	-1
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
MICE Group (3)	3¼	...
Mthsn Lloyds Inv (100)	82	...
Pentex Oil	105	...
TeleWest Coms (182)	174	-3½
Wellington Under (100)	102	...
Woodchester Units	125	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dares Estates n/p (4)	1¼	+¼
Hewitt n/p (68)	22	-1
Verity n/p (7½)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Copymore	120p (+10p)
MAM	757p (+8p)
Zeneca	916p (+24p)
Wellcome	961p (+273p)
Racal Elect	232p (+6p)

FALLS:

Allied Irish	250p (-10p)
HSBC	589p (-36p)
Lloyds	543p (-11p)
Redland	421p (-14p)
ICI	749p (-17p)
Norbain	398p (-22p)
Broken Hill	925p (-16p)
Gen Accident	502p (-16p)
Reuters	408p (-14p)
Ulster TV	639p (-14p)
Burmah Castrol	819p (-13p)
Ramco Energy	257p (-11p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Red hot Pepper

CADBURY Schweppes was clearly forced into revealing the progress of negotiations to buy the outstanding three-quarters of Dr Pepper well before it was ready, and the speculation must be that the premature leak was part of the negotiating process. But Cadbury has responded by drawing a line in the sand and indicating clear paramaters of the price being negotiated, by saying the deal must not be earnings-dilutive and must keep *interest cover this year above* 4.5 *times*.

The company has also stressed that negotiations will not automatically come to fruition, but the best indication must be that the parties are talking seriously and are on the same wavelength, so this is at least a meeting of like minds. Cadbury needs this deal because it is one that has been waiting almost a decade to happen, since the first stake was taken in 1986. A few years down the line, Dr Pepper's strong cash flows would have eroded the heavy debt it carries — $830 million of which will go on to Cadbury's balance sheet — the company would probably be paying dividends again, and the price would be much higher.

Cadbury can take the strain, with borrowings that at the December year-end are unlikely to have exceeded £400 million. To fit in with the provisos given, the British group would expect to bid somewhere upwards of $32 a share for Dr Pepper. At around $35, the bid flips into being earnings-dilutive in the first year, analysts believe, so anything north of that is well into Indian territory. The forecast of a £500 million rights issue is deliberately pitched on the high side, and justifiably so in these markets. But if Cadbury goes for this sum at $34 a share, for example, the group is still left with interest cover of 5.4. The attractions of the deal long-term are plain: Cadbury currently earns 13 per cent operating margins, the A&W root beer business bought last year is on 22 per cent, and Dr Pepper itself enjoys 27 per cent, the market estimates.

John Menzies

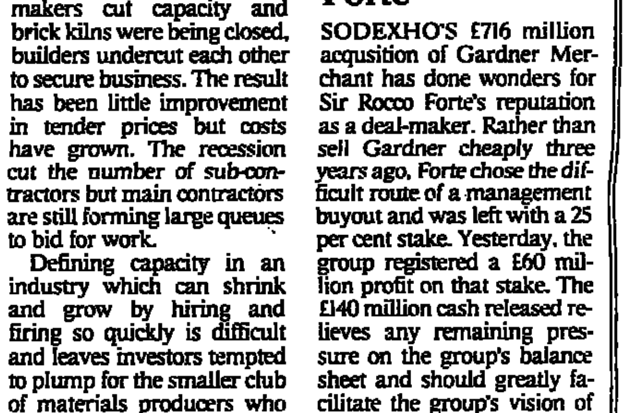
THE John Menzies share price has stayed relatively resilient throughout the recession thanks to the company's distribution businesses. While the retail side has floundered, distribution has been the main engine of profit growth, accounting for two-thirds.

But this stabilising force is *suddenly looking shaky*. The distribution deal between WH Smith and News International will adversely affect profits from the division. The impact may not be great — profits will be hit by only £1 million or so on a business that made £24 million last year — but it comes at a difficult time. Margins are already under pressure after the liberalisation of newspaper wholesaling. They will be further eroded by the newspaper price wars, which so far have not affected distributors, a situation that is about to change.

With major reorganisation of the retail side in progress, this is not the time for the distribution arm to go off the boil. New formats are being introduced into the Early Learning Centre and John Menzies chains. While these are delivering positive news on sales, they are also incurring sizeable costs, and profits from the retail operation are unlikely to make significant progress just yet. Capital expenditure jumped from £10 million to £14 million in the first half alone.

With both sides of the business in transition, the shares are unlikely to outperform.

SHOP THEN DROP



Construction

WORRIES about interest rates have caused shares in building contractors to lose at least half of the gains they have achieved since their nadir in late 1992. Recovery, helped by the patching up of ragged balance sheets with generous dollops of new equity throughout 1993 has been followed by an almost continual slide since the start of 1994. At best, investors can look forward to a dull 1995 with limited growth and more pressure on margins.

The Government is a useful scapegoat for an industry that loves inflation. The threat of more expensive mortgages is bad for housebuilders, not because the rates are now high but due to the anxiety that rising rates cause to homeowners. The real problems facing builders are self-generated. Overcapacity dogs the sector, a problem that is highlighted when compared with materials producers which closed down plant during the slump and are now reaping the benefits.

While concrete and cement makers cut capacity and brick kilns were being closed, builders undercut each other to secure business. The result has been little improvement in tender prices but costs have grown. The recession cut the number of sub-contractors but main contractors are still forming large queues to bid for work.

Defining capacity in an industry which can shrink and grow by hiring and firing so quickly is difficult and leaves investors tempted to plump for the smaller club of materials producers who tend to agree about prices. Construction clients may provide the long-term solution by rejecting low bids from less solvent contractors but such good sense is rare and investors will be wise to watch the blood-letting from the sidelines.

Forte

SODEXHO'S £716 million acqusition of Gardner Merchant has done wonders for Sir Rocco Forte's reputation as a deal-maker. Rather than sell Gardner cheaply three years ago, Forte chose the difficult route of a management buyout and was left with a 25 per cent stake. Yesterday, the group registered a £60 million profit on that stake. The £140 million cash released relieves any remaining pressure on the group's balance sheet and should greatly facilitate the group's vision of developing its worldwide hotels business. Now Sir Rocco must prove he can buy as adeptly as he can sell.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	992-991	May	1049-1046
May	994-993	Jul	1059-1053
Jul	1005-1004	Sep	1069-1065
Sep	1017-1016	Dec	1085-1078
Dec	1029-1025		
Mar	1040-1038		Volume 6123

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2924-2915	Sep	2865-2860
Mar	2918-2915	Nov	2865-2856
May	2875-2871	Jan	2875-2855
Jul	2852-2845		Volume: 4170

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	360.5-57.1
Spot: unq		Dec	355.4-51.1
Mar	413.5-11.0	Mar	349.9-45.0
May	409.0-06.2	May	349.8-44.6
Aug	392.0-89.0		Volume: 1223

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 20

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB.	60.90	115.90	115.44
(+/-)	-6.01	+2.52	-1.70
Eng/Wales	60.90	115.86	115.57
(+/-)	-6.01	+2.54	-1.64
(%)	+14.0	-10.0	-12.0
Scotland	unq	119.13	117.61
(+/-)	..	+2.26	-1.25
(%)	..	+31.0	+34.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.05	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Mar)	16.75	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.60	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	18.25	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.10	-0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas 15	B: 163 (n/c)	O: 164 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	145 (n/c)	146 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Mar	147 (-1)	149 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	148 (n/a)	149 (n/a)
3.5 Fuel Oil	107 (n/c)	109 (n/c)
Naphtha	162 (n/c)	163 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	143.00-43.25	May	147.25-47.50
Mar	145.25-45.50	Jun	148.00-48.25
Apr	146.50 BID		Vol: 10422

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	16.72-16.74	Jun	16.52 BID
Apr	16.59-16.60	Jul	16.46 BID
May	16.58 SLR		Vol: 19142

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	107.75	Jan	105.00
Mar	109.45	Mar	105.25
May	111.10	May	107.30
Jul	112.60	Sep	97.65
Sep	98.15	Nov	99.55
	Volume: 440		Volume: 56

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	364.0	342.0
May	395.0	376
Jun		424
		Volume: 221

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Feb 117.25-117.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 95	2000	1995	1995
Feb 95	1900	1880	1880
Mar 95	1890	1850	1855
Apr 95	1850	1825	1824
Vol: 336 lots		Open interest: [illegible]	
	Index 2044 -15		

(Official) (Volume prev day)	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Cash:	3mth:	Rudolf Wolff Vol:
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	3042.0-3044.0	3044.0-3045.0	1442275
Lead ($/tonne)	694.00-695.00	710.00-711.00	265375
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1196.5-1197.0	1223.0-1224.0	421700
Tin ($/tonne)	6495.0-6500.0	6565.0-6570.0	23242
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	2122.0-2123.0	2161.0-2161.5	1307450
Nickel ($/tonne)	9890.0-9900.0	10145-10150	72756

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Allid Dom	500	30½	34	46½	11	19½	21½
(*512½)	550	3	17	22	39½	46	45½
Argyll	240	22	27	29	6	11	12
(*254)	260	10	16	19	13	20	22
ASDA	60	9	9½	10½	1	2	3
(*67)	70	2	4	5½	5½	6	8
Boots	460	26	34	38	11½	19	22
(*468)	500	6	16	20½	33	43	45
Br Airways	330	32	37	42	5	13½	16½
(*349)	360	12½	20½	26½	19	29	31½
BP	390	28	34	40	7½	12½	15
(*405½)	420	12	19	25	22	27	29½
Br Steel	140	12½	16½	19½	2½	6	7
(*147½)	160	3½	7	9½	14½	17	18
C & W	330	34	41	46½	5½	11½	15
(*354)	360	16	24½	30	17½	25	29
CU	454	27½	—	—	16½	—	—
(*473)	492	8	—	—	49½	—	—
ICI	700	66	68	72	12	19	23½
(*749)	750	29	39	44½	35	41½	46½
Kingfisher	390	22	28	32½	14	24	28
(*393)	420	9½	15	20	30	42	46
Land Sec	550	25½	31	36	15	27½	30
(*553)	600	5½	10½	16½	47½	61½	63½
M & S	360	26½	31½	36	5	11	12½
(*376)	390	10½	15½	21	19½	25	27
Nat West	420	47½	48	55	10	14	19
(*457)	460	19½	25½	33	29	32½	39
Sainsbury	390	33½	39½	45	5	12½	14
(*413)	420	16	22	29½	15½	25½	28
Shell	650	53½	59½	67½	5	11	16
(*695½)	700	19	30	38½	29	32½	38
Smkl Bch	460	24	33	40	16½	25½	27
(*465½)	500	9	16	23½	41½	47	49
Storehse	220	12½	17	20	9	10	12
(*222½)	240	4	8	11	19½	21	23
Trafalgar	60	9½	11	12½	1	2½	3
(*67)	70	4	5½	7	5	7	7
Unilever	1100	54	68	84	28	37½	42½
(*1125½)	1150	28½	43	62	55½	64½	69
Zeneca	900	42½	59	66	31	39½	45
(*916)	950	18½	35	42½	60½	66	75

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	370	28½	37	42½	0½	3½	9½
(*395½)	390	7½	18	24	8½	14	19½
Ladbroke	160	7	13½	17	3	9½	12
(*164)	180	0½	5½	9	16½	22	24
Utd Bisc	300	10½	17½	23	4½	15	19½
(*305)	330	1	5½	11½	25	30½	30

January 23, 1995 Tot: 33701 Call: 25261 Put: 24440 FT-SE Call: 6146 Put: 10239

*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	450	21	—	—	12	—	—
(*453)	475	9½	—	—	27	—	—
Thames W	420	46½	55	56½	3	12	13
(*459)	460	21	29	33½	19½	30	31

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	420	17	27	33	7	20	29
(*420)	460	1	7½	16½	39½	46	57½
BTR	300	8	14	21	4½	14	17
(*303)	330	0½	4	9	26½	35½	37
Br Aero	448	12	29	—	10	26	—
(*451)	487	1	12½	—	37	49½	—
Br Telcom	360	30	36	44½	0½	4	9½
(*387½)	390	9	19½	25½	6	14½	22
Cadbury	360	29½	34	40	1	7	11
(*397½)	390	8	15½	24	9½	17½	24½
Guinness	390	24	31½	37	1½	7	12
(*411)	420	5½	14	21½	13	24½	27
GEC	260	14	21½	26	1	5½	10
(*271½)	280	2½	10½	15	10	14	20
Hanson	220	13½	17	21	1	5	8
(*233)	240	2	7	11	9½	15	19
LASMO	130	10	15½	17	0½	4½	6
(*139)	140	3½	10	13	4	9	10
Lucas	160	19½	22	27	0½	3½	6
(*179½)	180	5	11	16½	5½	11	14½
Pilkington	140	9	14	17	1	5½	8
(*149)	160	0½	5	9½	12½	14	17
Prudential	300	12½	19½	24½	2½	13½	17½
(*316)	330	1	6	12	21	33	36
Redland	420	12	23	29½	6	22½	32½
(*422)	460	1	8	13½	39½	57	60
R-Royce	140	10½	22½	24½	0	2½	4
(*159)	160	4	9½	13½	4½	10½	12
Tesco	240	7	12½	17½	4½	10½	17
(*241½)	260	1	5	9½	18	24	29
Vodafone	167	16½	—	—	0½	—	—
(*182½)	185	5	—	—	5	—	—
Williams	300	23	30	33½	1	6½	10
(*321½)	330	2½	12	17	12	22	25

FT-SE INDEX (*2952½)

	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100
Calls						
Feb	116	79½	49½	29½	14½	7
Mar	136	101	71½	49	30½	17½
Apr	156	128	99½	75½	55½	38
May	156	129½	105	82½	66	49
Jun	—	151½	—	101½	—	61½
Puts						
Feb	17½	31½	52	82½	117	167
Mar	39	54½	75	102	135½	174
Apr	59½	79½	99½	127	155½	190½
May	74½	96	122	146½	183	217
Jun	—	97½	—	145½	—	207

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Natl	420	14½	22	26	5	25	31
(*420)	460	2½	9	15	36	53½	55
Amstrad	125	10	15	—	3	6	—
(*132)	150	1	5	—	26	27	—
Barclays	550	27½	36	43½	18	27	28
(*562½)	600	7	18	27½	46	57	64
Blue Circ	260	13	20	24½	7	15	20
(*269)	280	5	11	16	19	24	32
Br Gas	300	12	19	23	5	7	11
(*303½)	330	2	6	13½	27½	35	37½
Dixons	180	19	23	29	2½	6	8
(*196)	200	6½	13	16	9½	7	16
Forte	220	15½	21	24½	3½	6½	12
(*230)	240	5	11	15	13½	21	22
Hillsdwn	160	17	19	22	1	4	6
(*174)	180	4½	8	11	8½	12½	14
Lonrho	140	15½	20	22	2	5	7
(*154½)	160	4	9	12	11	14	17
Sears	90	11	13	15	2	3	4
(*99½)	100	4½	7	9	4	7	8
Thrn EMI	950	62	85½	92	7	17	32
(*996½)	1000	28½	55	65	24½	36	54
Tomkins	200	22	26	31	1	4	6
(*219)	220	8	17	20	8	12	17
TSB	220	9½	14	15	5	14	17
(*223½)	240	2	7	10½	25	27½	29
Wellcome	950	51	69	86	40	44	70½
(*960)	1000	26½	49	76	72½	72½	77½

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	550	60	74	87½	17	26	31
(*597½)	600	29	47	59½	34½	42	55½
HSBC	550	54½	61½	66	17	24	37
(*590)	600	25½	39	41	42	51	57
Reuter	390	25½	37	44	11	17	24
(*407)	420	17	22½	29½	27	35	34

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Jul	Puts Feb	May	Jul
Royal Ins	240	16½	21½	27	2½	11	15
(*253)	260	5	12	17	11	21	25

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	100	12	16	19½	2½	6	7½
(*108)	110	6	11	15	7	11	12

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Eastern Gp	700	35½	62	78	5	22	34½
(*727½)	750	8	34½	51½	29½	45	61½

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	29	41½	47½	7	18	22
(*477)	500	9	21	29	29	40	44½
Scot Pwr	300	29	39	43	3	7	13
(*324)	330	10	21	25	14	19½	25

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	2973.0	2985.0	2944.0	2948.0	19038
Previous open interest: 63054	Jun 95	2986.0	2986.0	2986.0	2958.0	1
FT-SE 250	Mar 95				3370.0	0
Previous open interest: 2944	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	92.83	92.87	92.83	92.85	10660
Previous open interest: 417421	Jun 95	92.09	92.12	92.06	92.10	11950
	Sep 95	91.59	91.61	91.56	91.58	2836
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				93.22	0
Previous open interest: 2192	Jun 95	92.55	92.55	92.54	92.55	145
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.71	94.74	94.71	94.72	24326
Previous open interest: 699130	Jun 95	94.26	94.31	94.26	94.28	33890
Long Gilt	Mar 95	100-31	101-00	100-16	100-19	39803
Previous open interest: 91329	Jun 95	101-00	101-02	100-25	100-25	252
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	107.96	107.98	107.85	107.95	2347
	Jun 95	107.20	107.24	107.20	107.25	60
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	89.56	89.70	89.26	89.32	109735
Previous open interest: 197316	Jun 95	89.08	89.10	88.71	88.74	409
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.40	93.46	93.43	93.44	1130
Previous open interest: 22242	Jun 95	92.96	92.99	92.93	92.94	652
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	95.69	95.73	95.66	95.69	2802
Previous open interest: 40976	Jun 95	95.35	95.37	95.31	95.33	1081
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	99.65	100.31	99.65	100.05	39129
Previous open interest: 46739	Jun 95	99.30	99.30	99.30	99.10	24

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 6¼
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 6¼ Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5$^{15}/_{16}$; 3 mth 5$^{31}/_{32}$. Sell: 2 mth 5$^{13}/_{16}$; 3 mth: 5$^{29}/_{32}$.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	7-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	6-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6$^{11}/_{16}$-6½	7⅛-7¼	7¾-7⅝
Interbank:	6⅛-6¼	6⅜-6¼	6$^{11}/_{16}$-6½	7¼-7⅛	7¾-7⅝

Overnight: open 6¼, close 7.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6½	7	7$^{11}/_{16}$
Sterling CDs:	6-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6$^{11}/_{16}$-6½	7⅛-7	7¾-7⅝
Dollar CDs:	5.94	n/a	6.22	6.68	7.37
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6¼	6⅜-6¼	6$^{11}/_{16}$-6⅝	7-6$^{15}/_{16}$	7$^{11}/_{16}$-7$^{9}/_{16}$

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 30, 1994 Agreed rates Jan 25, 1995 to Feb 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.71 %. Reference rate Dec 1, 1994 to Dec 30, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 6.402 %

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	6-5⅞	6¼-6⅛	6⅝-6½	5½-4¾
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	4$^{15}/_{16}$-4$^{13}/_{16}$	5$^{3}/_{16}$-5$^{1}/_{16}$	5⅝-5½	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	5⅜-5¼	5⅝-5½	5$^{15}/_{16}$-5$^{13}/_{16}$	6⅛-6⅛	6-5
Swiss Franc:	3$^{13}/_{16}$-3$^{11}/_{16}$	3$^{15}/_{16}$-3$^{13}/_{16}$	4⅛-3$^{15}/_{16}$	4½-4⅜	4½-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2$^{5}/_{16}$-2$^{3}/_{16}$	2⅜-2¼	2⅝-2½	2½-1¾

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $384.60-385.00 **Close:** $381.90-382.40 **High:** $385.25-385.75 **Low:** $381.40-381.90 **AM:** $385.10 **PM:** $382.35

Krugerrand: $381.50-383.50 (£239.25-241.25)

Platinum: $420.00 (£264.50) **Silver:** $4.81 (£3.015) **Palladium:** $157.75 (£99.35)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 23	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6890-2.7072	2.7038-2.7072	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr
Brussels	49.43-49.79	49.60-49.79	6-2pr	18-10pr
Copenhagen	9.4570-9.5200	9.5050-9.5200	⅛pr-par	1⅛-⅝pr
Dublin	1.0105-1.0140	1.0110-1.0137	6-3pr	12-8pr
Frankfurt	2.3995-2.4132	2.4100-2.4132	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr
Lisbon	247.41-249.73	249.09-249.73	69-72ds	210-215ds
Madrid	208.53-210.50	210.19-210.50	37-49ds	114-137ds
Milan	2513.40-2533.00	2529.60-2532.90	1pr-par	3-1pr
Montreal	2.2446-2.2667	2.2635-2.2667	0.33-0.42ds	0.75-0.88ds
New York	1.5958-1.5962	1.5952-1.5962	0.04-0.02pr	0.12-0.07pr
Oslo	10.4980-10.5630	10.5470-10.5630	1½-½pr	3½-1½pr
Paris	8.3060-8.3530	8.3390-8.3530	⅝-⅛pr	1½-1⅛pr
Stockholm	11.7750-11.8840	11.8600-11.8840	1⅛-2ds	3½-5ds
Tokyo	157.66-159.16	158.89-159.16	⅝-½pr	1½-1⅛pr
Vienna	16.88-16.96	16.92-16.96	2⅜-1pr	6⅜-4⅝pr
Zurich	2.0149-2.0256	2.0227-2.0256	⅝-½pr	1¾-1½pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3010-1.3015
Austria	10.61-10.62
Belgium (Com)	31.09-31.10
Canada	1.4217-1.4222
Denmark	5.9505-5.9560
France	5.2235-5.2285
Germany	1.5085-1.5090
Hong Kong	7.7345-7.7355
Ireland	1.5759-1.5774
Italy	1586.00-1586.50
Japan	99.70-99.75
Malaysia	2.5562-2.5572
Netherlands	1.6919-1.6924
Norway	6.6035-6.6065
Portugal	155.94-156.04
Singapore	1.4492-1.4502
Spain	131.55-131.60
Sweden	7.4316-7.4416
Switzerland	1.2660-1.2670

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5935-1.5961
Australia dollar	2.0734-2.0754
Bahrain dinar	0.592-0.604
Brazil real*	1.3465-1.3506
Cyprus pound	0.735-0.745
Finland markka	7.3700-7.4860
Greece drachma	370.50-377.50
Hong Kong dollar	12.3296-12.3335
India rupee	49.30-50.26
Kuwait dinar KD	0.469-0479
Malaysia ringgit	4.0771-4.0613
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.4756-2.4790
Pakistan rupee	48.35 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8875-6.0135
Singapore dollar	2.3107-2.3131
S Africa rand (fin)	6.6381-6.6745
S Africa rand (com)	5.6261-5.6321
U A E dirham	5.7650-5.8890

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	341	Legal & Gn	789
ASDA Gp	10,000	Lloyds Bk	1,300
Abbey Natl	3,000	MEPC	829
Alld Dom	1,500	Marks Spr	4,600
Argyll Gp	2,900	NatWst Bk	3,200
Arjo Wiggn	632	Nat Power	2,500
AB Foods	737	Nth Wst W	1,000
BAA	1,400	P & O	802
BAT Inds	3,500	Pearson	1,300
BOC	578	PowerGen	1,300
BP	5,200	Prudential	1,800
BTR	6,200	RMC	341
BT	8,300	RTZ	2,200
Bk of Scot	1,300	Rank Org	1,700
Barclays	5,000	Reckitt Col	1,000
Bass	1,300	Redland	1,800
Blue Circle	1,400	Reed Intl	1,000
Boots	951	Rentokil	425
Bowater	952	Reuters	8,400
Brit Aero	3,000	Rolls Royce	1,600
Brit Airwys	4,700	Ryl Ins	724
Brit Gas	11,000	Ryl Bk Scot	2,000
Brit Steel	7,000	Sainsbury	2,700
Burmah Cstl	445	Schroders	45
Cable Wire	5,500	Scot & New	184
Cadbury	5,200	Scot Power	722
Caradon	985	Sears	557
Carlton Cms	642	Svrn Trent	262
Cm Union	1,200	Shell Trans	4,500
Courtaulds	1,000	Siebe	2,000
De La Rue	154	SmKl Bch	8,500
Eastern Elec	411	Smith Nph	1,400
Enterpr Oil	1,400	Southern Elec	165
Forte	1,200	Std Chartd	3,500
GKN	1,600	Sun Allnce	1,600
GRE	1,300	TI Gp	1,600
GUS	1,700	TSB	3,700
Gen Acc	617	Tesco	5,500
Gen Elec	5,900	Thames W	907
Glaxo	30,000	Thrn EMI	1,100
Granada	1,500	Tomkins	3,000
Grand Met	4,900	Unilever	805
Guinness	2,600	Utd Bisc	2,500
HSBC	6,000	Vodafone	12,000
Hanson	12,000	Warburg	1,200
ICI	1,100	Wellcome	50,000
Inchcape	864	Whitbread	912
Kingfisher	1,800	Wlms Hld	2,500
Ladbroke	630	Wolseley	459
Land Secs	2,100	Zeneca	9,900

WALL STREET

	Jan 23 midday	Jan 20 close
AMP Inc	71¾	72¾
AMR Corp	57¾	57¾
AT & T	48¼	48¾
Abbott Labs	32¾	32¼
Advanced Micro	30⅞	31⅞
Aetna Life	48⅞	49⅞
Ahmanson (HF)	16⅛	16⅛
Air Prod & Chem	45⅞	46
Albertson's	29⅞	29
Alcan Alumnm	25⅜	25⅞
Alco Standard	65	66⅛
Allied Signal	35⅞	36⅛
Alum Co of Am	86	86⅛
Amax Gold Inc	5⅞	5⅝
Amerada Hess	44¼	44⅝
Amer Brands	37⅜	37⅛
Amer El Power	33⅞	34⅛
Amer Express	30	30⅛
Amer Genl Corp	28⅞	28⅞
Amer Home Pr	65⅞	65⅞
Amer Intl	99⅞	100⅛
Amer Stores	26⅛	26⅛
Ameritech	42⅞	42⅞
Amoco	59	58⅞
Anheuser-Busch	52⅞	52⅞
Apple Computer	41⅞	42⅞
Archer Daniels	19⅞	19⅞
Armco	6⅞	6⅛
Armstrng Wrld	43⅞	44⅛
Asarco	29	29⅞
Ashland Oil	32⅞	33⅛
Atl Richfield	106⅞	104⅛
Auto Data Pro	58⅞	58⅞
Avery Dennison	35⅞	35⅞
Avon Products	56⅞	56⅛
Baker Hughes	18	17⅛
Baltim Gas & El	22⅛	23
Banc One	27⅛	27⅞
BankAmerica	41	41⅞
Bank of NY	28⅞	29⅛
Bankers Tr NY	57⅛	57⅛
Barnett Banks	40⅞	40⅞
Bausch & Lomb	34⅞	35
Baxter Intl	27⅛	27⅛
Becn Dicknsn	50⅛	50⅞
Bell Atlantic	49⅞	50⅞
BellSouth	55	54½
Black & Decker	24	24⅛
Block (H&R)	33⅞	34
Boeing	47⅛	47⅛
Boise Cascade	28⅛	29⅞
Borden Inc	13	13⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	58⅞	58⅞
Browning Ferris	29⅛	30
Brunswick	20⅞	20⅛
Burlington Nthn	50⅛	50⅛
CBS	58⅛	59
CNA Financial	67⅞	67⅛
CPC Intl	52⅞	53⅛
CSX	73⅛	73⅞
Campbell Soup	41⅛	41⅞
Can Pacific	13⅛	13⅛
Cpd Cities ABC	86	86⅞
Carolina Pwr	27⅛	27⅛
Caterpillar	52	52⅞
Central & SW	22⅛	22⅞
Champion Intl	39⅞	39⅛
Chase Manhat	32⅛	33
Chemical Bk	36⅛	36⅞
Chevron Corp	46⅛	46⅛
Chrysler	46⅞	47⅛
Chubb Corp	79⅞	79⅛
Cigna Corp	66⅞	67
Citicorp	38⅞	39
Clorox	56⅛	56⅞
Coastal Corp	27⅞	27⅛
Coca Cola	50⅞	50⅞
Colgate-Palmolive	56⅞	58⅛
Columbia Gas	23⅛	23⅞
Compaq Comp	41⅛	41⅛
Comp Ass Int	52⅛	53⅛
Conagra	30⅛	30⅞
Cons Edison	27⅞	27⅛
Cons Nat Gas	34⅞	34⅛
Cons Rail	53	52⅞
Cooper Inds	35⅛	35⅞
Corning Inc	31⅞	32⅛
Crown Cork	39⅛	39⅞
Dana Corp	23	23⅛
Dayton Hudson	68⅛	68⅛
Deere	69⅞	70⅞
Delta Air Lines	54⅞	55
Deluxe Corp	26⅛	26⅞
Detroit Edison	27	27⅛
Digital Equip	34⅛	34⅛
Dillard Dept St	26⅛	26⅛
Disney (Walt)	46⅞	47⅛
Dominion Res	36⅛	36⅞
Donelley (RR)	27⅛	30
Dover Corp	57⅛	57⅛
Dow Chemical	66⅞	68
Dow Jones	31⅞	31⅞
Dresser	19⅞	19⅞
Duke Power	39⅞	39⅞
Dun & Brdstreet	53	53
Du Pont	56⅞	56⅞
Eastman Kodak	49	49⅞
Eaton Corp	48⅞	49⅞
Emerson Elec	63⅛	64⅞
Engelhard Corp	24⅛	24⅛

	Jan 23 midday	Jan 20 close
Enron Corp	29⅞	29⅛
Entergy	22⅛	23⅞
Ethyl Corp	10⅛	10⅛
Exxon	63⅞	62⅞
FMC Corp	58⅞	59
FPL Group	35	35⅛
Federal Express	62⅞	62⅛
Fed Nat Mtge	69⅞	69⅞
First Chicago	45⅛	46⅛
First Interstate	70⅞	71⅛
First Union Rlty	8⅛	8⅛
Fleet Fin Grp	30⅛	31
Fluor Corp	46⅞	46⅞
Ford Motor	25⅛	26⅛
GTE Corp	30⅛	31
Gannett	51⅞	51⅞
Gap Inc Del	31⅛	32⅛
Gen Dynamics	43⅞	43⅞
Gen Electric	50	51
Gen Mills	55⅞	56⅛
Gen Motors	38⅞	39⅛
Gen Reinsurance	123⅞	125⅞
Gen Signal	34⅛	35⅞
Genuine Parts	36⅛	37
Georgia Pac	75⅛	75⅛
Gillette	72⅞	72⅞
Glaxo ADR	19⅛	20⅛
Goodrich (BF)	43⅞	43⅞
Goodyear Tire	36⅛	36⅞
Grace (W&R)	40⅛	40⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	18⅞	19⅛
Great Wstn Fin	16⅛	16⅞
Halliburton	35⅞	35⅛
Harcourt General	33⅞	34⅛
Heinz (HJ)	37⅞	38⅛
Hercules	118⅛	119⅞
Hershey Foods	49⅞	49
Hewlett Packard	103⅛	105
Hilton Hotels	64⅛	64⅛
Home Depot	46⅞	46⅞
Homestake Mng	16⅞	16⅛
Honeywell	34⅛	34⅛
Household Intl	39⅛	39⅞
Houston Inds	38⅞	38⅞
Humana	22⅞	22⅞
ITT Corp	89⅛	90⅛
Illinois Tool	40⅛	40⅞
Illinova	22	22
INCO	29⅞	30
Ingersoll Rand	31⅛	31⅞
Inland Steel	31⅞	31⅛
Intel Corp	69⅛	68$^{11}/_{16}$
IBM	73⅞	75⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	46⅛	46⅛
Intl Paper	75⅞	76⅛
James River Va	22⅞	22⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	54⅛	54⅛
Kellogg	53⅞	54⅞
Kerr-McGee	46⅞	46⅞
Kimberly-Clark	47⅛	47⅛
Kmart	13⅛	13⅞
Knight-Ridder	52	52⅞
Lilly (Eli)	64⅛	65
Limited Inc	17⅞	17⅞
LM Ericsson	137⅛	137⅞
Lincoln Nat	35⅛	35⅛
Litton	35	35⅛
Liz Claiborne	16⅛	17
Lockheed	72	72⅞
Louisiana Pac	28⅞	29⅛
MCI Comm	18⅞	18⅛
Marriott Int	28⅛	29⅛
Marsh & McLnn	76⅞	77
Masco Corp	23⅛	23⅛
May Dept St	34	34⅞
Maytag Corp	14⅞	15⅞
McDonalds	29⅛	29⅞
McDonnell D	48⅞	49
McGraw Hill	66	64⅛
Mead Corp	53⅞	53⅞
Medtronic	56⅞	57⅛
Mellon Bk	33⅛	34
Melville Corp	31⅛	31⅞
Merck Inc	37⅞	37⅛
Merrill Lynch	35⅛	36⅞
Minnesota Mine	52⅞	53⅞
Mobil Corp	85⅛	85⅞
Monsanto	73	73
Morgan (JP)	58⅞	58⅛
Motorola Inc	60⅞	61⅛
Natl Medical	13⅛	13⅞
Natl Semi	18⅛	19⅛
Natl Service Ind	25⅞	25⅞
Navistar Int	15⅛	16
NBD Bancorp	28⅞	28⅞
NY Times A	22⅞	23
Newmont Mng	36⅛	36⅞
Niag Mohawk	14⅞	14⅛
Nike B	72⅞	71⅛
NL Industries	12	12
Noram Energy	5⅛	5⅛
Nordstrom	42	42⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	62⅞	62⅞
Nthn State Pwr	45⅞	45⅞
Norwest Corp	23⅛	23⅞
Nynex Corp	36⅞	36⅞
Occidental Pet	19⅛	19⅞
Ohio Edison	19⅛	19⅛
Oracle Systems	42⅞	43$^{11}/_{16}$
Oryx Energy Co	10⅛	10⅛

	Jan 23 midday	Jan 20 close
Owens Corning	31	31⅛
PNC Financial	21⅞	21⅛
PPG Industries	36⅛	37⅛
Paccar Inc	44⅛	44½
Pacificorp	18⅛	18⅛
Pac Enterprises	21⅞	21⅛
Pac Gas & Elect	25	25
Pac Telesis	28⅞	29⅞
Pall Corp	19⅛	18⅛
Panhandle East	20⅛	20⅛
Parker Hannifin	48⅛	48⅛
Peco Energy	25⅞	25⅞
Penney (JC)	40⅛	40⅛
Pennzoil	45⅛	44⅞
Pepsico	34⅞	34⅛
Pfizer	78⅞	79⅛
Phelps Dodge	59⅞	59⅞
Philip Morris	57⅛	57
Phillips Pet	32⅛	32
Pitney Bowes	32⅛	32⅛
Polaroid	30⅛	30⅛
PriceCostco	13⅛	13⅛
Procter & Gmbl	61⅞	61⅞
Providian	33⅛	33⅛
Pub Serv E & G	27	27
Quaker Oats	33⅛	34⅞
Ralston Purina	45⅛	44⅞
Raychem Corp	37	37⅛
Raytheon	65⅛	65⅛
Reebok Intl	37	37⅞
Reynolds Metals	53⅞	53⅛
Roadway Srvcs	50⅛	50
Rockwell Intl	38	38⅛
Rohm & Haas	56⅛	56⅛
Royal Dutch	110⅛	110⅛
Rubbermaid	29⅛	29⅞
Safeco Corp	51½	51⅞
St Paul's Cos	45⅞	45⅞
Salomon Inc	37⅞	37⅛
Santa Fe Pac	18	11⅛
Sara Lee Corp	24⅞	24⅛
Secorp	15⅞	15⅛
Schering Plough	73⅞	73⅞
Schlumberger	52⅞	53⅞
Scott Paper	71	71⅞
Seagram	29⅛	29⅛
Sears Roebuck	45⅞	45⅞
Shell Trans	66⅛	66⅛
Sherwin Wlms	32⅛	32⅛
Skyline Corp	17⅞	17⅞
Snap-On-Tools	31⅛	32⅛
Southern Co	20⅛	20⅞
Sthwestern Bell	40⅛	40⅞
Sprint Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Stanley Works	39	39⅞
Sun Company	29⅛	29⅛
Sun Microsys	32⅞	32⅛
Suntrust	49⅞	50
Supervalu	22⅞	22⅞
Sysco Corp	25⅛	25⅛
TRW Inc	64⅛	65⅛
TCC Inds	2⅛	2⅞
Tandem Comp	18⅛	18⅞
Tandy Corp	45⅞	48⅛
Teledyne	22⅛	22
Temple Inland	47⅛	48⅞
Tenneco	42⅞	43⅞
Texaco	62⅛	62
Texas Inst	77⅞	77⅞
Texas Utilities	33⅞	33⅞
Textron	49⅛	50⅞
Time Warner	35	35⅛
Times-Mirror	32⅞	32⅞
Timken	33⅛	34
Torchmark	37⅞	37⅛
Toys R Us	29⅛	28⅛
Transamerica	51⅞	51⅞
Travelers	34⅞	34⅞
Tribune	52⅞	53⅛
Tyco Labs	48⅛	48⅛
UST Inc	29⅞	29⅛
UAL	97⅞	98⅞
USX Marathon	16⅛	16⅞
Unicom	24⅞	24⅞
Unilever NV	115	115⅞
Union Camp	48⅛	48⅞
Union Carbide	28⅛	28⅞
Union Pacific	48⅛	48⅞
Unisys Corp	9	9
USAIR Group	4⅛	4⅞
USF&G Corp	15	15⅛
US Life	34⅞	35
US West	35⅞	35⅞
United Tech	63⅞	64⅛
Unocal Corp	26⅛	26⅞
Upjohn	31⅞	31⅞
VF Corp	49⅛	49⅞
WMX Tech	27⅞	27⅞
Wal-Mart Stores	21⅞	21⅛
Warner-Lambert	74⅛	75
Wells Fargo	143⅛	143⅞
Westinghouse El	13⅞	13⅛
Weyerhaeuser	38⅛	39⅞
Whirlpool	49⅞	50⅛
Whitman	15⅞	15⅛
Winn Dixie	53⅞	52⅛
Woolworth	15⅞	15⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	46⅞	46⅞
Xerox	103⅞	107⅛
Yellow Corp	22⅞	22⅞

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

◆

Sweet and sour pork

THE Year of the Pig (or Wild Boar) looms, and the Singapore office of James Capel has called on five seasoned geomancers to read their rice bowls. The pig-dictions are that drought, earthquakes, land slides and epidemics will be more frequent and more severe, and that there will be a major change in the government of at least one global power. Kuala Lumpur will be the Far East's strongest performer. Hold the metal of the Gods — gold — to deflect bad *fung shui*. It will not be a boaring year, the geomancers say. Thundering herds of wild boar will appear in February, and March will be good. After the party comes an April hangover, and in May most boars will stampede away. An international incident will ripple across the geopolitical map in June. July will be corporate deal month. In August, the pigs will be in the pink of health. September could be the year's second-best month. But beware! The bull run ends in October. November will seem like 1994 again — death by a thousand cuts (making bacon). December sees the market grunting back to life. If pigs can fly, then they will positively take off in January when the Singapore market will be at its strongest as old records fall and new highs tested. So there you have it. And in all seriousness — *kung hei fat choy* (to our Cantonese readers), and *gong xi fa cai* to all Mandarin tongues.

Motor head

SIR ROCCO FORTE might be called many things, but in the hotel trade his nickname is V.W. — after Volkswagen's discontinued Scirocco model.

Fantasy man

NEWS of Glaxo's near £9 billion bid for Wellcome was greeted with more than passing interest at BBC Television Centre. Business unit editor Paul Gibbs recently launched a fantasy share portfolio competition on BBC2's programme *Working Lunch*, which concentrates on the market's top 100 companies and which has attracted more than 12,000 viewer entries. Gibbs says the interest belies the abysmal viewing figures of less than 100,000 recently published, and says yesterday's near 40 per cent leap in Wellcome's share price is sure to generate further interest. All Gibbs needs to do now is have a *whipround* to pay for the winner's trip to New York, which includes three nights at a top hotel and a tour of the New York Stock Exchange. Licence holders take note.

Bid? What bid?

MEANWHILE, PR group Brunswick must have thought it was sod's law in action when two of its clients, Glaxo and Wellcome, announced their engagement talks yesterday — about which it knew nothing. Brunswick has since "stepped back" from both accounts, proving that there is honour among some PR firms. Financial Dynamics has been called in to hold Glaxo's hand.

COLIN CAMPBELL

NICHOLAS BOWMAN

On the factory floor: Russell Luckock, chairman of AE Harris, expects interest rates to go up, possibly twice, before the end of the year

Interest rise may depend on how hard industry is working

Philip Bassett looks for indications of overheating in the economy from Midlands' businessmen and the CBI

Russell Luckock is clear about where interest rates are heading — up. "With inflation rising," says the chairman and managing director of the Birmingham toolmakers AE Harris, "my gut feeling is that interest rates will have to go up again — at least once, and probably twice".

Coupled with yesterday's output figures, the latest indications of the strength of the real economy in today's quarterly industrial trends survey from the CBI will be crucial in determining whether such on-the-ground businessmen are right when Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, meet next week to consider the need for a new rate increase in an attempt to choke off rising inflation.

Central to their calculations on whether the economy is overheating will be the CBI's evidence on prices, and on how hard British industry is now working in the recovery. Indications of price rises, pushed up by rising raw material prices, are widely expected. And analysts expect, too, a further increase in manufacturers' capacity utilisation.

AE Harris employs 152 people in a traditional toolmaking business that has operated in Birmingham since 1880: it supplies machine tools for a range of industries, including cars, mining and aircraft. Mr Luckock says that after a 25 per cent rise in sales last year, orders so far this year have fallen off, with many companies worried about the impact of higher interest rates on their planned investment.

Accordingly, while parts of his business are running at full capacity, with his laser cutting and turned parts sections currently working from 6am to 10pm, in other areas the factory is a good way from running flat out — and his forecast of further interest rate rises make him sceptical about claims elsewhere of capacity constraints.

Manufacturing capacity is crucial to the sustainability of the recovery. The degree of capacity utilisation is widely seen as a reliable indicator of aggregate demand. As capacity utilisation rises, companies often tend to switch sales away from foreign markets — exports are currently driving the recovery — to more profitable domestic markets, increasing inflationary pressures and worsening the balance of payments.

CBI evidence is currently giving mixed signals on capacity utilisation. The CBI's figures show that by last autumn, the proportion of companies operating below capacity has contracted from around 70 per cent at the low point of the recession in the winter of 1991-92 to only 51 per cent now, while the number of firms reporting capacity as a constraint on output has tripled over the same period — up from about 7 per cent to 22 per cent, though at the same time those citing the need to expand capacity as a reason for investment expenditure is up from a low of 15 per cent to 31 per cent.

While today's figures may help to clarify the picture, such evidence inevitably draws mixed interpretations — not helped by fact that "capacity is an awfully slippery concept", with manufacturers often including both fixed investment and labour, according to Kate Barker, CBI chief economist, who will present today's survey.

In engineering, for instance, "most companies have a substantial amount of spare capacity," says Ian Thompson, economic adviser to the engineering employers body, EEF. But he says too that "for all the trade balance has done well in 1994, the danger is it will go wrong in 1995", partly because of high capacity utilisation.

Bill Martin, chief economist at UBS Research, argues that manufacturing industry is already operating above its normal levels of capacity, and is not far short of the mid-1980s peak associated with a sharp tightening of monetary policy. Alistair Darling, Labour's City spokesman, takes this further: "Capacity constraints and skill shortages are now threatening the sustainability of the recovery at this early stage."

Evidence from the British Chambers of Commerce quarterly trends survey last week puts capacity utilisation at its highest level for five years. But the chambers are concerned about a levelling-out of companies' investment intentions, and suggest that capacity constraints together with skill shortages point to "serious pressures building" in the longer term.

The Treasury is more sanguine believing that current levels of capacity utilisation represent less of a constraint on expansion, and hence less of an inflationary threat, than they have in the past because companies are using their existing capacity more efficiently and have cut their staff. With profitability up and capacity utilisation continuing to rise, the Treasury believes that the need for extra capacity is likely to become an increasingly important investment motive.

Out among manufacturers themselves, uncertainty about demand makes things look a good deal less sure. "It's very fragile," says Alan Brazier, chairman of Vax, a Bromsgrove firm that makes heavy-duty domestic vacuum equipment. "It's better than it was last year — but our orders are coming in by the day, rather than the month."

Accordingly his factories are running at about 85 per cent capacity, and although the company has put in about £12 million of new investment in plant and equipment over the last ten years, patchy demand in the high street means that the company's turnover is not necessarily reflecting its investment levels, making it cautious about further new money. Mr Brazier cites recent mortgage rate increases as bad for the housing market and therefore for his products.

Deep in the Black Country on the other side of Birmingham, things are a little different at Bloxwich Engineering, a motor components manufacturer that makes door locks and hinges for Honda, Toyota, Rover and VW, and tilting cab locks for trucks.

"Parts of our factory are almost at full capacity," acknowledges Ron Baker, the company's managing director. With £11 million investment in new plant and buildings over the last six years, the company is seeing growth — its workforce is up from 350 in the depth of recession to 470 now, and it is still hiring — but even so, it still has capacity to spare.

"Capacity is not a problem yet for most companies here," says Tony Bradley, business management and policy director at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. "But we are now getting to the stage where these constraints will start to show."

The CBI's Ms Barker says that capacity utilisation varies sectorally: "Our feeling is that plant capacity is a problem in some specific industries", and studying the detailed sectoral breakdown of the CBI survey over the last four years seems to bear that out.

Very large companies, for instance, are facing the most serious problems, with three-fifths now operating at full capacity — probably because they tend to be the largest exporters, and exports are running well.

In metal manufacturing, full capacity working is very high, though its sectoral figures have consistently outperformed the overall totals throughout the period. Motor industry capacity is also doing well, though it has been much more shaky over the four years, and many companies in textiles, paper, food and chemicals are also clearly working flat out or close to it. By contrast, in the still heavily recession-bound aerospace sector, for example, as many as 92 per cent are working below capacity.

Private CBI analysis undertaken after the last quarterly survey in October tried to assess which was the most important push behind rising industrial prices — capacity constraints or costs — and faced with the clear evidence of sharply increasing raw material prices up and down the country, it saw costs as the more important.

But City economists will study today's CBI findings on both capacity and prices closely for signs of economic overheating that could indicate a further rise in interest rates.

Yesterday's GDP figures, showing growth was slowing even before the most recent rate rise, will count against a new increase. But both the now well-established price pressures and the emerging signs of capacity constraints, including skill shortages, about which companies are increasingly complaining and which today's CBI survey is expected to show, may well push things the other way.

As Vax's Mr Brazier puts it: "We are getting interest rate rises when we are told that the country is doing well. People find that hard to understand."

> We are getting rate rises when things are going well. People find it hard to understand

Turning up the heat under British Gas

Push for competition will create winners and losers, says **Melvyn Marckus**

BRITISH GAS, whose chief executive Cedric Brown is due to appear before the Commons Employment Select Committee today, to give evidence on salary scales in privatised industries, found itself at the centre of another storm yesterday.

This time, the controversy surrounded a report by the BBC, based on a leaked document, that British Gas is poised to introduce charges for safety checks and other services to more than one million elderly and disabled customers.

British Gas's Rivermill House HQ, which is fast resembling a fire-fighting unit rather than a commodity supplier, promptly turned on the hose. A spokesman declared: "We have no plans to charge for any of these services."

Displaying a new found expertise in fire-fighting, British Gas took the opportunity to point out that it spends more than £30 million a year operating a "GasCare" register. It added that it is essential that, come competition, new entrants must share the same obligations.

Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister, was quick to respond. He let it be known that he was absolutely determined that all suppliers would have to offer special services for elderly, disabled or blind persons.

He confirmed that this obligation will be included in the Gas Bill, which he promises to publish "shortly". In his words: "It will be a condition of the licence required by any gas supplier before they can supply domestic customers."

The alacrity with which the Energy Minister spoke out is not altogether surprising. It was Mr Eggar who, not long ago, chose to quote from a document, published by the independent suppliers, entitled *Wouldn't You Just Love to be in Control?* The glad tidings were that, with the introduction of competition, "there will be savings for all customers, large and small, and that the smallest users will enjoy the biggest savings". In the event, this publication — short on numbers but long on words and pictures — was dubbed *The Rupert Bear Annual* by the Gas Consumers Council.

British Gas, as Mr Brown will doubtless point out to the committee, has been privatised for more than eight years, but, with 18 million customers, remains the ultimate political football: not least because 18 million customers presumably equate to some 36 million votes.

First came the row over Mr Brown's £475,000 salary which, as Richard Giordano, the British Gas chairman, has consistently pointed out, represents an increase of 28 per cent rather than the headline figure of 75 per cent.

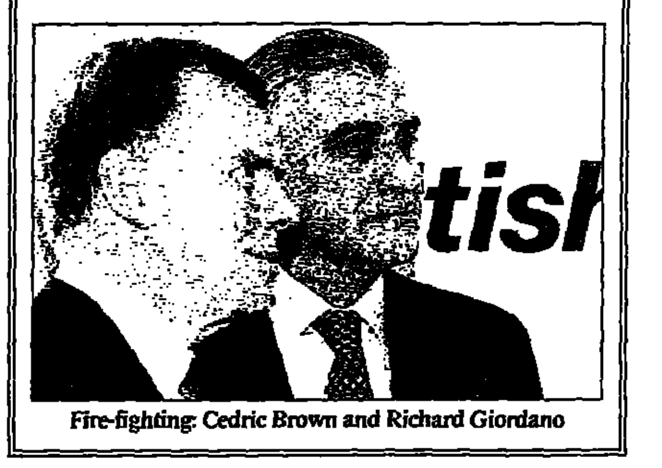
Reports that showroom staff were to be axed and salaries cut followed. Then came the "safety scare" — also based on a leaked memo — which indicated a cutback on gas leak checks from £9 million to £1 million.

As Mr Giordano and Mr Brown made clear in an interview with *The Times* earlier this month, the salaries of showroom staff have not been cut. Equally, hundreds of millions of pounds have been spent on replacing cast iron pipes with polyethylene in order to improve safety performance.

The reality is that the pace of change at British Gas reflects the Government's decision (strongly supported by Clare Spottiswoode, the Director-General of Gas Supply) to achieve the rapid introduction of competition into the domestic gas market.

Whenever British Gas drew attention to the implications of competition it was accused of scaremongering. Now, under Mr Giordano's regime, it has ceased firing warning salvos and is preparing for the brave new world: a far braver world, it may be recalled, than the Monopolies and Mergers Commission recommended in 1993. What the MMC advised was that the removal of British Gas's domestic monopoly should not take place until three to five years after the company had divested its trading arm.

But the Government knew best and the MMC's recommendations were turned on their head. Eventually the penny will drop. Competition will herald cost-reflective prices which, in turn, will mean winners and losers.



Fire-fighting: Cedric Brown and Richard Giordano

Sarah Bagnall on drugs industry upheaval

Glaxo's survival prescription

GLAXO'S bid for Wellcome holds an unmistakeable message for the pharmaceutical industry. Drug companies around the world are seeing their traditional markets overturned and are seeking critical mass to ensure their survival.

The highly fragmented sector is consolidating — and at an increasing pace. Glaxo is the world's biggest drug company, but only boasts a market share of 3.9 per cent. The Wellcome deal, if successful, will lift that to 5.3 per cent.

More than $20 billion has been spent on takeovers in the past 18 months and many analysts believe there are billions of dollars yet to be spent. There are several catalysts for the corporate activity in the sector. Every part of the healthcare chain — from financing to dispensing drugs — is in upheaval. The days are over when drugs were sold direct to the doctor, who was concerned with efficacy rather than price. Now, power has shifted from producer to purchaser as governments, companies and insurers seek to cut costs.

This has led to the rise of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), who negotiate with drug manufacturers on behalf of their customers, which tend to be big employees and insurance companies. The PBMs carry considerable buying muscle because as bulk purchasers of drugs they can demand hefty discounts from manufacturers. In contrast to former days, the PBMs look closely at price.

The tougher pricing environment has eroded margins, which together with rising research and development costs has forced drug companies to cut costs, build market share or die. The logic behind the Glaxo deal highlights this belief. Sir Richard Sykes, chief executive at Glaxo, said: "It only needed three or four deals in the US and we could have become marginalised."

Typically, it takes between eight and 12 years to bring a drug to market and the risks of failure are high. But R&D is a company's lifeblood and the need to maintain R&D spend is driving takeover activity.

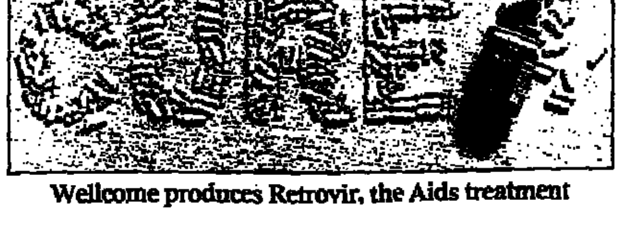
Companies' responses to market pressures fall broadly into three camps: buy a rival, buy a PBM or quit the industry. The first approach — the horizontal move that Glaxo has opted for — is aimed at cutting costs, while the vertical approach is aimed at securing access to the market.

Roche's agreed $5.3 billion bid for Syntex last year was a horizontal move that expanded Roche's activity in its traditional markets while increasing its foothold in America. The rationale behind the deal was twofold. Syntex's best-selling product came off patent in 1993 and, as a result, its sales have fallen sharply. This threatened to starve the company of funds to finance its R&D appetite. Conversely, Roche needed to cut costs and wanted access to the increasingly important over-the-counter market.

These factors are relevant in Glaxo's bid for Wellcome. Both companies face patent expiries in America for their best-selling drugs. The US patent for Wellcome's Zovirax, the genital herpes treatment, runs out in April 1997, followed in July by the expiry of the US patent for Glaxo's Zantac, the anti-ulcer treatment that is the world's best selling drug.

The potential squeeze on R&D is evident and if Glaxo wants to maintain its R&D spending — 14.9 per cent of sales — costs must be cut.

The R&D spending of Wellcome, which manufactures Retrovir, the Aids treatment, was about 15 per cent in 1993. Horizontal deals enable rationalisation and in the Glaxo-Wellcome case the opportunities are extensive. These range across the board from R&D to sales and marketing, and will involve job losses and, possibly, pulling some products out of development.



Wellcome produces Retrovir, the Aids treatment

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UK Growth Acc	337.70	359.30	- 4.50	3.06
UK Growth Inc	231.10	245.90	- 3.20	3.08
Higher Inc Acc	634.80	675.40	- 8.50	4.26
Higher Inc Inc	366.80	390.30	- 4.90	4.26
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	181.10	191.20	- 0.20	6.01
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	85.05	89.59	- 0.07	6.01
Nth America	252.10	268.30	- 1.70	.
Far East	304.10	323.60	-14.50	0.42
Europe	255.30	271.60	- 3.30	0.96
Brit Excell	66.98	71.25	- 0.74	3.28
Brit Fndtnls Acc	96.53	102.70	- 1.20	5.01
Brit Fndtnls Inc	70.81	75.33	- 0.86	5.01
Global Opps	77.78	82.75	- 1.42	0.50
Balanced Acc	50.97	54.12†	- 0.73	3.23
Balanced Inc	49.63	52.90†	- 0.70	3.23
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.70	133.49†		8.00
High Inc Equity	150.90	161.40†	- 2.30	4.88
Worldwide Bond	257.30	272.50	- 1.00	5.57
Capital Growth				
American Growth	265.90	284.60†	- 2.30	.84
Asian Pacific	272.10	289.50	- 9.90	
Assets & Earnings	242.90	258.40	- 3.60	3.02
Commdty & Energy	102.60	109.20	- 0.40	
Euro Capital Inc	125.60	134.30	- 1.40	.72
(Accum Units)	134.20	143.50	- 1.50	.72
General	217.60	226.60	- 3.50	2.40
Japan	112.50	120.30	- 6.20	.
Mastertrust	130.90	139.90	- 2.00	1.78
UK Growth Dist	114.70	122.70	- 0.70	2.81
US Emerging Cos	129.00	138.00	- 1.10	
Income & Growth	357.00	379.80	- 6.50	3.29
Ethical	64.57	68.37	- 0.69	3.00
International	105.90	112.70	- 2.20	1.14
Dividend & Growth	56.40	60.00†	- 0.79	4.66
Global Gwth & Sec	66.09	70.48	+ 0.02	2.98
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Amer Inc & Growth	41.74	43.34	- 0.30	0.72
Cash	50.29	50.29†	+ 0.02	4.47
European	106.20	110.90	- 6.90	
Exempt	936.30	970.07†	- 2.00	1.84
Extra Income #	46.94	49.38†	- 0.23	6.11
Far East Emg Eco	99.60	104.40	- 2.50	0.59
Fixed Interest #	22.43	22.54†	- 0.01	6.72
Fund Inv Tst	164.50	173.10	- 3.30	0.97
Japan	166.70	173.90	- 5.50	
Latin American	51.73	54.30	- 0.72	0.89
Pacific	63.19	66.67	- 2.16	0.40
Property Share	59.71	62.69†	- 0.31	2.18
UK Emerging Cos	60.69	63.70†	- 0.26	1.95
UK Growth	41.40	43.98	- 0.47	2.66
Aber World Port #	66.57	67.84	- 1.14	2.31
Ethical	59.76	62.20†	- 0.20	2.83
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	48.78	48.78†	+ 0.02	7.69

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Portfolio	91.09	97.08	- 1.06	0.80
Japanese Portfolio	59.35	62.99†	- 3.17	
Pacific Portfolio	124.60	133.98	- 3.47	0.97
UK Inc & Growth	71.45	76.71	- 0.57	3.39
Utility & Bond	53.35	53.93	- 0.29	6.85
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	645.05	651.10		4.75
Fxd Int Sec	147.10	147.45	.	9.83
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	58.60	62.33†	- 1.12	3.19
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	638.32	640.19	.	4.86
Accum	527.23	527.25	.	
Fixed Int Inc	119.50	119.75	.	9.69
Fixed Int Acc	185.16	185.46	.	
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 837 7867				
Intl Growth	116.58	127.20†	.	
UK Income	103.79	112.95†		5.32
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	73.07	77.43	..	1.56
Beck Bio-Tech	24.69	27.46†	.	
Acorn Ethical Tst	145.30	152.95†		0.73
City Fin Assets	83.26	87.30	- 1.90	1.33
City Fin America	80.69	84.93	..	
City Fin Intl	71.71	75.48	...	0.96
City Fin Japan	162.52	171.07†		.
Friars Hse Cap	352.87	373.74†	- 7.10	2.01
Friars Hse Inc	181.55	193.14	- 5.74	4.38
Buckley Wrld Gth	122.14	129.94		8.09
Falmouth Cap Gth	131.11	138.48	.	
Fairmount Intl	144.0	153.19	.	
City Fin Pflio Inc	50.96	54.21†	.	4.43
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 711 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	50.88	53.99	- 0.76	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	52.90	56.58	- 0.34	
Atlas Mngd Gwth	33.07	35.37	- 0.82	0.51
Dragon Growth	57.70	61.71	- 2.00	0.64
Equity High Inc	76.66	81.55	- 1.27	4.29
(Accum Units)	103.08	109.66	- 1.70	4.29
European Gwth	47.35	50.37	- 0.70	0.92
Evergreen	26.75	28.59	- 0.20	.
General Equity	77.40	82.12	- 1.20	2.79
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.59	24.80†		8.67
Japan Growth	45.50	48.65	- 3.12	.
Pedigree Gwth	46.89	49.88	- 0.88	2.80
Pref Sm Cos Inc	30.83	32.67	- 0.01	1.23
(Accum Units)	29.96	31.97	- 0.01	1.23
Retirement Inc #	24.22	25.77	- 0.39	6.24
Special Sits	35.32	37.57	- 0.38	2.16
UK & Overseas	43.48	46.26	- 1.03	1.55
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0634 898 000				
Capital	61.11	65.35	- 1.22	2.45
Income	56.24	60.14	- 0.81	4.39
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	145.30	154.57	- 2.33	5.80

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Euro Smaller Cos	25.73	27.74	- 0.17	...
French Growth	68.56	71.16	- 1.72	0.33
Accum Units	73.45	76.24	- 1.84	0.33
H Kong & China	62.74	65.12†	- 2.30	2.04
Intl Growth	52.78	54.76	- 1.17	0.58
(Accum Units)	53.22	55.24	- 1.18	0.58
Japan Gth	30.47	31.62	- 1.94	..
Accum Units	30.47	31.62	- 1.94	..
Japan Smaller Cos	38.96	40.44	- 2.05	.
Glob Emg Mkts	88.36	91.71	- 2.72	...
Accum Units	88.89	92.37	- 2.73	
SE Asia	268.60	278.80	-11.90	0.40
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	50.84	52.33	- 0.13	6.19

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Smaller Cos	66.40	70.20	- 0.30	3.21
(Accum Units)	130.40	137.99	- 0.50	3.21
Sterling Hi Int	23.56	23.65†	+ 0.01	8.86
Treasury	25.08	25.12†	+ 0.01	6.76
Trustee	38.80	41.00	- 0.50	4.71
(Accum Units)	156.40	165.40	- 1.80	4.71
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0903 204 631				
European Growth	75.18	79.97	- 1.43	0.95
Intl Bond	58.40	62.45	- 0.21	5.78
Intl Equity Growth	64.28	68.37	- 1.58	0.65
N Amer Growth	88.85	94.52	- 0.58	1.02
Special Sits Growth	20.15	21.43	- 0.21	1.76

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
071 581 3020				
American Cap	124.10	131.90	.	
Income	138.09	146.89†	- 2.05	4.00
UK Growth	50.82	54.06†	- 0.43	0.59
International	70.75	75.25†	- 1.45	0.38
Ecology	74.05	78.76	- 2.31	1.36
European	114.54	121.73	- 0.78	
Far Eastern	268.39	285.40	-11.80	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	46.55	49.52†	- 0.04	7.77
Gilt Yield	111.30	117.50†	- 0.30	6.81

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	343.40	365.30	- 5.90	2.85
(Accum Units)	449.00	478.50	- 7.70	2.85
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01920 625867				
Balanced Fd #	£12.28	£12.52	...	3.30
Income #	926.70	943.50†	...	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 222 4242				
Maldon General	136.90	140.60	...	4.34
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD				
Dealings: 0438 747 414				
Growth Units	184.80	197.70	- 2.10	2.55

Equities fall across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Natl	421	- 8	4.6	14.2
314	233	Allied Irish	250	- 10	5.0	9.6
278¾	171	Aus New Z	202	- 7	6.0	•
3300	2462½	Bank America	2600	- 37½	...	
247	172½	Bank Scotland	194	- 3	3.4	10.9
640	487	Barclays	564	- 6	3.7	13.8
319	246	Bk of Ireland	288	- 6	5.0	8.3
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2450	- 25		
286½	208	Close Bros	220	+ 1	4.3	9.6
£150¼	£121¼	Commerzbk	£130⅞	- 459¾	6.3	...
1286¼	1031¼	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1078½	- 34½	0.5	...
£344¾	£270¼	Deutsche Bk	£288¾	- 931¼	2.4	...
1315¾	748¼	Espirito Santo	753½	- 18¾	5.0	3.8
99	57	First Nat Fin	65½	- ½	2.9	•
1549¾	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1231	- 82½	0.4	•
473	209	Hambros	243	- 3	7.7	14.9
1113	589	HSBC	589	- 36	5.2	8.5
1133	578	HSBC Hk	578	- 37	5.3	8.4
443	333	Joseph (L)	333	...	5.6	11.4
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	573	- 1	4.2	10.1
660	519	Lloyds	543	- 11	5.3	10.7
620¼	472	Nat Aust Bk	514	- 2	6.9	•
622	421	Nat West	458	- 9	5.3	8.9
3390	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150		6.6	•
79	53	Rea Bros	66		1.8	18.5
578	377	Royal Bk Scott	378	- 11	4.5	9.1
1574	1050	Schroders	1395	- 37	1.7	12.8
1458	1043	Schroders N/V	1255	- 46	1.8	11.5
114	75	Singer & Fried	85	- ½	4.6	10.9
358¼	220	Stand Chart	247	- 8	3.2	6.5
291	197	TSB	223½	- 4	5.2	•
1012	569	Warburg SG	736	+ 5	3.7	13.6
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9062½	+ 18¾	3.2	•
250	194	Westpac	214¼	- 2	2.5	•
390	203	Wintrust	215		6.0	14.4

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	150	Ascot Hldgs	155			
619	485	Bass†	514	- 8	5.1	13.0
299	246	Boddington	249	- 3	4.2	13.4
196	168	Burtonwood Brwf	173		3.7	14.5
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'†	157		3.3	•
66	49¾	Fosters Brewing	55		5.3	•
493	342	Fuller Sm 'A'	352		2.8	14.8
511	388	Greenalls Grp†	418	+ 1	3.9	20.7
584	452	Greene King†	529	- 1	3.2	14.1
357	238	Hardy Hanson	259	- 2	4.5	•
170	135	Heavitree	150	- 5	3.4	13.5
3773	3125	Holt J	3420	...	1.8	18.8
246	195	Mansfield†	242		2.4	14.8
314	256	Minton Tavp	297	- 2	2.6	14.4
545	440	Morland†	480	- 3	2.9	13.8
10¾	6½	Paramount	7		3.6	
329	209	Regent Inns	322	- 2	2.1	24.7
1865¾	1000	SA Breweries	1337½	- 71½	2.2	21.0
591	477	Scot & Newt	500	- 7	4.4	14.3
306	215	Vaux Group†	225	- 2	5.5	12.7
491	324¾	Wetherspoon JD	469	- 3	1.6	25.6
617	494	Whitbread†	551	- 4	4.3	15.0
489	403	Wolvrhmptn Br	505	- 5	3.4	13.3
208	148	Yates Bros†	198	- 5	2.4	15.4
535	463	Young 'A'	463	...	4.0	19.6

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	101	ABI Leis†	101	- 2	5.8	11.8
317	248	Acatt	308	...	2.8	16.7
595	253	Adam & Harvey	595	...	3.3	7.5
31	21	Alexanders	21	...	3.0	10.5
175	111	Appleyard	111	...	5.5	19.8
6	3¼	Asa Br Eng	4¼	...	1.3	33.9
578	485	BSS Group†	520		4.4	18.3
25½	17	Beating Power†	22½	- 1	3.9	—
405	240	Bensley Marr	253	...	5.2	18.4
40	28	Bogod 'A'†	28	...	3.1	11.8
370	336	Brammer	349	- 2	4.7	19.4
31	15	Budgens Gp	15	...	1.7	78.0
99	78	Bell Fittings	88	...	3.0	...
71	40	Brown & Tawse	48	- 2	...	
57	35	Burndene†	38	...	6.3	•
465	245	Caffyns	288	...	6.4	44.8
59	20¾	Caster Plc†	21¾	+ ¼	6.4	11.9
130	78	Central Mtr	78	- 1	4.6	•
51	32¼	Cook (DC)†	40	- 1	3.6	12.9
342¼	197½	Cowie A	229	- 4	3.0	11.4
192¾	127	Dag Motors	138	...	5.8	16.9
683	446	Dennons Eli	583	- ½	1.4	14.7
528	414¾	Diploma	445	- 2	3.6	15.8
589	443	Electrocomponents	487	+ 2	2.6	20.0
175	138	Electron House†	165	+ ¼	2.7	17.0
283	225	Ellis & Everard†	255	...	3.8	18.9
234	201	Eurobell†	207	...	5.3	15.7
173	105	European Mtr	110	...	5.1	12.0
539¼	385	Evans Halshaw	385	- 3	4.8	12.1
658	490½	Farnell Elect	537	- 4	1.9	22.8
78	50	Fife Indmar	55	...	6.2	8.1
34	15	Gardner	15	...	6.2	7.1
46	19	Glenchewton	22	...		24.3
90	68	Gowrings	71	...	3.5	21.5
76	50	Hallite Hldgs	71	...		55.4
171	122	Harris (Philip)†	182	...	5.1	14.6
349¼	253	Henlys	284	- 3	3.6	14.1
191	86	Holders Tech	94	...	3.0	10.2
138	107	ISA Intl	107	...	2.0	13.4
609	385	Inchcape	398½	- 7	4.9	12.9
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	53	...		12.3
184	145	Kwik-Fit	158	- 2	3.2	17.9
573	291	Lex Service	308	- 3	5.4	11.8
282	182	Lookers	185	...	4.9	•
20	14	Malaya Grp	16	...	2.1	...
9	3¼	Middlesex Gl	6½	- ¼	...	
448	279	Moran	308	- 22	0.7	17.8
100	47	Northamber	82	...	1.8	39.1
175	152	PCT	152	...	6.7	74.7
310	232	Pendragon	242	- 2	3.9	15.9
238	141	Perry Gp	141	...	6.2	7.7
218	126	Quicks Group	128	...	5.2	13.3
166	97	REA	165	...	4.5	34.1
5¼	2¾	Rence	2¾	...	...	
24	4	Ross Gp	5½	...	4.5	...
42	32½	SEP Ind	39½	+ ½	3.4	•
44	31	TLS Range	42	...	3.0	18.9
265	215	Time Products	229	- 1	4.2	15.3
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	168	...	3.9	12.4
335	240	Wholesale Ftgs	240	...	8.1	21.4
30¾	13½	Willis Gp	16½	...	3.8	9.3
74¾	39½	Wilshaw†	69¾	...	1.2	23.5
69	40	Wyatt	61	- 2½	2.8	...
96	61	Young (H)	77	+ 3	5.5	•

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
757	620	Caledonia	642	- 8	3.2	17.5
2050	1900	Camellia	2150	- 50	1.9	5.7
22½	18¼	Carlisle	18¼		1.7	
630¼	441	Cater Allen	441	- 13	8.0	9.1
174¾	125	Cattles	149	- 1	4.4	16.7
85	33	Clinsclie	33			72.9
15	12	EFG	14		0.9	9.1
71½	45¼	EFT Group	63	...	3.6	13.3
740	513	EFM	717	- 6	4.2	21.5
212	159	Exco	168	- 6	6.3	4.6
229	157	Gartmore	179½	- 1	2.8	20.7
515	395	Gerrard Nat	476	- 12	6.3	13.7
465	333	Govett	366	- 1	5.0	5.1
1208	845	Henderson Ad	1054	- 16	5.5	14.6
251½	151	Invesco	170	- 1	2.8	27.9
50	37	Investment Co†	44		5.0	14.1
250	185	Ivory Sime†	216		4.3	17.0
317	193¾	Jardine Strat	207	- 11¼	4.0	8.4
428	103	Johnson Fry	129	...	1.5	4.1
170	99	King Shaxson	99	- 1	11.4	9.8
245	138	Lon Forfaiting	145	- 1	8.0	9.1
124	95	Lon Scot Br	123		4.3	
1253	794	M & G†	954	- 10	3.9	16.8
323	278	MAI	343	+ 3	4.0	13.2
117¼	85½	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	92½	- 1		
792	538	MAM	757	+ 8	3.8	17.7
29¾	8½	Nat Home Loan	12¼	- ½		
1268	970	Perpetual	1228	- 15	3.6	19.3
573	415	Provident	528	- 6	4.2	16.8
355	245	Rathbone Br	348	...	4.3	12.3
29	21½	Rutland Tst	25	- ½	4.5	12.7
359	221¾	S & U	294		4.7	9.6
425	163	Stanelink	169		6.7	6.3
168	106	SJP Capital	179	- 7	3.2	8.4
496	324	Smith New Crt	431	- 1	2.9	5.0
604	305½	Save Pack 'A'	305½	- 17½	3.0	•
224	76	Towry Law	77		7.2	6.6
65	23	Tnp Hldgs▲	24		0.5	10.9
159	87	Union	89		6.3	6.7
31	29	Western Select†	24		1.5	

PHARMACEUTICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311¾	Brit Biotech	533	+ 3		
489	329	Cantab Pharma	330			
243	191	Celltech	234			
151	89	Chiroscience	112	+ 1		
47	38	Cortecs	38			
157	103	Fisons	108	+ 2½	3.1	...
725	520	Glaxo	599	- 44½	5.6	14.5
195	95½	Evans Hlg	107		6.4	19.8
187	130	Medeva	174	+ 2	2.1	14.0
3	1¼	Partner Health	1½			
330	227	Quality Care	258		2.2	•
325	242	Scotia	325	+ 11	..	
85	44	Shield Diag	56			
476	357½	SmithKline	466	+ 2	3.3	18.1
445	322	Smithkline Uts	431	- ½	3.6	16.8
978	498	Wellcome	961	+ 273	2.2	21.8
934	672	Zeneca	916	- 24	3.9	18.4

PRINTING & PAPER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	122	AG Holdings	126		5.5	11.9
444	335	API†	389	- 1	2.9	•
316	225	Arjo Wiggins	225	- 6	3.6	32.9
205	145	Aspen Comm	165		3.8	18.9
472	347	Bemrose	381	- 1	4.1	13.6
171	97	Bagden	110		1.7	51.4
524	409	Bowater	435	- 5	3.8	16.3
1912½	1378¾	Bowater Inc	1850	- 21½		
297	242	Bamore Intl	268	- 4	1.8	16.3
515	435	Br Polythene	504	- 1	3.0	17.7
176	30	Br Thornton†	32	- 1	17.6	2.8
180¾	112	Brooks Grp	123	- 2	2.5	18.1
185	139	Bund	163	- 3	3.7	19.2
198	128	Capital Inds	142		4.0	11.1
2446¾	1690¾	Cassand Mil	2159½	- 68½	2.2	18.7
439	279	Cropper (James)	279		1.6	14.7

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
11½	7¼	ERA Gp	9			
284	135	Essex Furn	139	+ 1	3.9	17.4
326	200	Etam	200	- 12	4.8	11.1
558	345	Fine Art Devt	345	- 1	6.3	10.7
68	46	Frost Earth	63			
106	71	Flying Flowers	83		1.6	16.0
278	124	French Conn	270			11.4
264	205	Frost Group	217	- 2	3.1	21.9
66	49	Gieves	56		3.3	30.0
136	85	Goldsmiths Gp	131	+ 1	1.8	23.5
653	493	GUS†	513½	- 10½	3.3	14.8
196	164	Hamleys	191		3.1	18.4
36	21	Hampson Gp	33		3.8	
227	163	Hse of Fraser	163	- 3	3.8	14.7
99	68½	Hughes (TJ)	82		3.9	13.5
778	393	Kingfisher	393	- 6	4.7	10.3
276	100	Kleeneze	109		1.7	•
435	270	Liberty	288	- 5	2.1	
380	277	Lloyds Chem	299	- 3	4.0	9.6
184	117	MFI†	123	- 1	4.2	15.4
460¾	358½	Marks Spencer	376½	- 4½	3.2	16.7
680	495	Menzies (John)	511	+ 10	5.0	12.0
377	338	Moss Bros	351		3.0	13.9
275	214	Next	258	- 2	3.2	15.8
59	20	OEM	35			
97	39	Owen (O)	94	+ ½		29.1
113	73	Partridge Fine	88		4.1	11.9
37	18	Pavion	12½	- ½	...	
269	150	QS Hldgs	151		4.3	16.5
62	14	Rhino Grp	14		4.5	13.3
209	130	Ratners	130		4.6	15.2
132	99	Sears	99½	- 1½	4.7	16.9
46	16½	Signet Group	20			6.9
549	426	Smith WH	434	- 8	4.4	22.4
1260	688	Sotheby's	728		3.8	21.4
252	189	Storehouse†	222	- 3½	3.2	18.3
206	151¼	Stylo	204		1.6	13.8
198	146	T & S Stores	156		4.9	11.3
173	114	Tie Rack	114		1.9	13.5
63¾	3½	Upton & Southn	3¾			
539	384	Vendome†	456	- 4	2.2	35.1
70	28	WEW Group	32		2.7	27.1
93½	52	World of Leather	67		1.7	
195	138	Wyevale	156	- 1	3.7	16.5

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	514	Allied Domecq†	514	- 9	5.5	12.9
459	358	Bulmer (HP)†	393		3.5	21.2
140	105	Burn Stewart	118		5.3	25.9
556	356¼	Grand Metr	356	- 10	4.9	16.7
542	409¼	Guinness	409½	- 8½	4.0	13.5
457	353	Highland Dist	411	- 3	2.2	18.8
222	127	Macallan-Glen	214		0.7	56.1
710	365	Macdn Mrtn 'A'	690		1.8	29.7
614	515	Matthew Clark	542	- 2	4.3	24.9
250	61	Merrydown W	71		4.4	...
190	142	Taunton Cider	146	- 1	5.8	11.3

SUPPORT SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	92	ACT Group	93½		7.0	9.9
743	583	ADT	656			
46	34	Alphameric	40			30.5
140	59	Amb Sec	71			9.2
162	99	BET Ord	106	- 1	4.1	15.1
196	115	BNB Res	175		3.6	20.4
256	175	BPP	235		4.7	16.8
186	130	BSM	148		5.4	12.6
2¾	¼	Black & Edg	2½	- ¼		
1100	500	Borland	525		...	
226	159	Brit Data Mgt	165	- 2	2.6	13.0
79	57	Brooks Service	59		3.7	
117½	78	CRT Gp	81	- 1	5.2	19.7
238	164	Capita Group	154	- 4	2.3	19.6
423	277½	Chubb Sect	301	+ 1	2.7	17.5
243	105	Cooper People	136		7.3	33.5
66	41	Corp Services	61	- 1	0.5	22.9
97	48	Cowie Dncng	55	- 3	0.9	
276	212	Davis Service	234	- 3	4.3	15.7
83	68	Dudley Jenkins	74		5.5	16.4
154	79	EW Fact	80		7.7	6.0

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	77	- 2	6.8	6.3
130	95	Baillie Plc	127		2.0	8.0
185	75	Berry Bco Nu	77	..	8.3	11.6
215	150	Blaker Inv	152			
154	108	Brewin Dolphin	118		6.1	8.7

BRITISH FUNDS

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
103⅝	97⅝	Gas 3% 1990-95	99⅝		3.09	6.47
107⅝	101⅝	Exch 10¼% 1995	101⅝		10.07	6.69
113⅝	104⅝	Treas 12¾% 1995	104⅝	...	12.19	6.82
117⅝	106⅝	Treas 14% 1996	106⅝	...	13.13	7.05
121⅝	109⅝	Treas 15¼% 1996	109⅝		13.94	7.39
117⅝	107⅝	Exch 13¼% 1996	107⅝		12.37	7.49
112⅝	103⅝	Conv 10% 1996	103⅝		9.68	7.95
100⅝	96⅝	Treas 7% 1997	97⅝ †	- ⅛	7.20	8.24
121⅝	108⅝	Treas 13¼% 1997	109⅝	..	12.12	8.11
114⅝	104⅝	Exch 10½% 1997	104⅝ †	..	10.06	8.18
110⅝	100⅝	Treas 8¾% 1997	100⅝ †		8.67	8.35
131⅝	115⅝	Exch 15% 1997	115⅝	..	12.97	8.48
114⅝	102⅝	Exch 9¾% 1998	103⅝	- ⅛	9.46	8.57
108⅝	95⅝	Treas 7¼% 1998	96⅝	- ⅛	7.52	8.57
102	93⅝	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	94⅝	- ⅛	7.11	8.58
131⅝	114⅝	Treas 14% 1998-01	114⅝	- ⅛	12.19	8.77
140⅝	121⅝	Treas 15½% 1998	121⅝	- ⅛	12.79	8.65
125⅝	110⅝	Exch 12% 1998	110⅝	- ⅛	10.88	8.76
116⅝	100⅝	Treas 9½% 1999	102⅝	- ⅛	9.25	8.69
128⅝	111⅝	Exch 12¼% 1999	112	- ⅛	10.94	8.77
121⅝	105⅝	Treas 10½% 1999	106⅝	- ⅛	9.85	8.72
101⅝	88⅝	Treas 6% 1999	90⅝ †	- ⅛	6.65	8.67
121⅝	104⅝	Conv 10¼% 1999	105⅝	- ⅛	9.83	8.76
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
116⅝	98⅝	Conv 9% 2000	101⅝	- ⅛	8.90	8.72
98⅝	96	Treas 8% 2000	97⅝	- ⅛	8.24	8.63
136⅝	116⅝	Treas 13% 2000	117⅝	- ⅛	11.04	8.84
127⅝	103⅝	Treas 10% 2001	105⅝ ‡	- ⅛	9.45	8.64
105⅝	89⅝	Treas 7% 2001	91⅝	- ⅛	7.69	8.77
123⅝	102⅝	Treas 9¾% 2002	104⅝ ‡	- ⅛	9.31	8.69
113⅝	92⅝	Treas 8% 2003	95⅝	- ⅛	8.39	8.81
127⅝	104⅝	Treas 10% 2003	106⅝	- ⅛	9.35	8.88
129⅝	109⅝	Treas 11½% 2001-04	111⅝	- ⅛	10.31	9.01
85⅝	68⅝	Fund 3½% 1999-04	73⅝	- ⅛	4.76	7.46
125⅝	101⅝	Conv 9½% 2004	104⅝	- ⅛	9.11	8.83
105⅝	84⅝	Treas 6¾% 2004	87	- ⅛	7.76	8.73
100⅝	97	Treas 8½% 2005	98⅝	- ⅛	8.64	8.72
125⅝	102⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	104⅝	- ⅛	9.09	8.81
140⅝	118⅝	Treas 12½% 2003-05	120⅝	- ⅛	10.39	9.08
112⅝	90⅝	Treas 7¾% 2006	92⅝	- ⅛	8.34	8.73
117⅝	91⅝	Treas 8% 2002-06	94⅝	- ⅛	8.47	8.79
136⅝	112⅝	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	114⅝	- ⅛	10.25	9.10
119⅝	95⅝	Treas 8½% 2007	96⅝	- ⅛	8.64	8.72
151⅝	124⅝	Treas 13½% 2004-08	127⅝	- ⅛	10.62	9.08
124⅝	99⅝	Treas 9% 2008	102⅝	- ⅛	8.80	8.70
115⅝	91⅝	Treas 8% 2009	94⅝	- ⅛	8.48	8.70
LONGS (over 15 years)						
98⅝	77⅝	Treas 6¼% 2010	79⅝	- ⅛	7.82	8.59
126⅝	100⅝	Conv 9% 2011	102⅝	- ⅛	8.74	8.67
127⅝	100⅝	Treas 9% 2012	103⅝ ‡	- ⅛	8.73	8.65
93⅝	71⅝	Treas 5½% 2008-12	73⅝	- ⅛	7.45	8.42
117⅝	92	Treas 8% 2013	94⅝	- ⅛	8.47	8.60
114⅝	89⅝	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	91⅝ ‡	- ⅛	8.43	8.61
128⅝	99⅝	Treas 8¾% 2017	101⅝ ‡	- ⅛	8.61	8.61
159⅝	126⅝	Exch 12% 2013-17	129	- ⅛	9.30	8.56
UNDATED						
54⅝	39⅝	War Ln 3½%	40⅝	- ⅛	8.55	
37⅝	27⅝	Treas 2½%	28⅝	- ⅛	8.70	
INDEX-LINKED						
203⅝	197⅝	Treas IL 2% 1996	202⅝	...	2.48	4.10
113⅝	108⅝	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108⅝	- ⅛	3.04	3.95
178⅝	163⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2001	165⅝	- ⅛	3.52	3.97
173⅝	159⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2003	161⅝	- ⅛	3.59	3.96
118⅝	107⅝	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108⅝	- ⅛	3.67	3.96
184⅝	165⅝	Treas IL 2% 2006	168⅝	- ⅛	3.66	3.92
169⅝	149⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152⅝	- ⅛	3.70	3.93
179⅝	154⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2011	157⅝ †	- ⅛	3.73	3.93
148⅝	126⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129⅝ †	- ⅛	3.75	3.93
157⅝	134⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137⅝ †	- ⅛	3.76	3.94
152⅝	128⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2020	132⅝	- ⅛	3.78	3.93
129⅝	106⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109⅝	- ⅛	3.78	3.92
126⅝	105⅝	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108⅝	- ⅛	3.81	3.95

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385	293	Mid Kent Hldgs	323	+ 3	4.6	10.9
611	454	North West†	501	- 6	5.9	7.2
751	508	Northumbrian†	677	- 4	4.7	7.3
646	457	Severn Trent†	489	- 7	6.0	6.1
1895	1525	South Staffs	1865	+ 5	3.6	11.4
675	459	South West†	483	- 4	6.8	7.1
682	465	Southern†	535		5.6	7.7
611	434¾	Thames†	459	- 6	6.3	6.9
744	546	Welsh†	591	- 5	5.6	6.5
379¾	261	Wessex†	358		5.7	7.0
630	458	Yorkshire†	486	+ 1	6.0	7.1

Source: Reuters

◎ USM # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

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Why owner-managers make a dash for cash

By Rodney Hobson

OWNER-MANAGERS find personal and family problems just as worrying as the commercial concerns of their business, according to research by Professor Sue Birley of the management school of Imperial College, London.

Andrew Godfrey, head of growth and development services at Grant Thornton, the business adviser that commissioned the research, said: "There is much more to being a contented owner-manager than simply being able to balance the books. What is worrying is that, despite having weathered the recession, we are seeing many owner-managers choosing to sell up rather than battle on. All too clearly the main reason why owner-managers are making a dash for cash is a need for greater security following the trials and tribulations of the last recession." The top three areas of concern are:

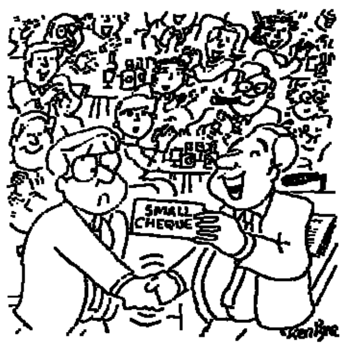
☐ How to retain control while using external capital or transferring shares to outsiders. Grant Thornton says that worrying about the consequences of bringing in new shareholders is more likely than anything else to keep owner-managers awake at night.

☐ How to protect, or realise, wealth. Owner-managers have nightmares about having their wealth locked up in the business.

☐ How to finance and manage growth. Whether to grow the business, and how to motivate staff without losing control.

Professor Birley says owner-managers fall into five groups. About one in five is a lone owner who does not involve even wife or children in the business. Accounting for the same proportion is the focussed owner, who is preoccupied with the business to the exclusion of family, but who has outside shareholders and employs senior managers.

Family owners have several family members in management positions and view the possibility of control passing to outsiders as a major concern. Surprisingly, relaxed owners form the largest group, although they are still in a minority. They are often those that have taken the risk of diluting equity and delegating power.



"You've won the award for attending the most Enterprise Award ceremonies."

Putting experience to work

By Christopher Browne

LIFE really does begin at forty for marketing consultant Hugh Cushion. He has started an employment agency to find jobs for mature men and women who suddenly find themselves out of work.

Based in Kingston, Surrey, the agency, Forties Plus Initiative, links unemployed individuals with a database of employers ranging from plastics manufacturers to accountancy firms.

The idea came to Mr Cushion, 53, when he was out of work and got a job as an assistant in a DIY superstore. After living on a salary of more than £30,000, he was paid just over £4 an hour and worked weekends to earn the extra to fend for his family.

He says: "A total of 250,000 skilled men and women over 40 are unemployed in Britain at the moment, and when it happened to me I suddenly realised the pressures the older employee is faced with. Employers just don't want to know. They are only interested in employing young people, and when a man reaches 40, or a woman 35, he or she is considered too old to be of any use."

Hugh Cushion displays that fighting spirit in front of a Second World War Hurricane fighter

Mr Cushion is backing his fight for the over 40s with car stickers and sweatshirts bearing the slogan "Let's Put Experience Back To Work." He uses the logo of a Hawker Hurricane aeroplane "to give people the fighting spirit to go for jobs." Mr Cushion, grandson of Sir William Cushion, Air Vice-Marshal of the RAF, has been lobbying councils, corporations, MPs, voluntary bodies and even high street shops to get his anti-ageism message across.

He says: "Ageism has taken over from racism, religion and sexism as the biggest prejudice in the workplace in the past ten years. The recession hasn't helped, for the older employee has often been the first casualty when a company has to cut back. I want employers to realise how much the older person has to offer."

To help break the taboo, Mr Cushion's agency is competing directly with high street employment agencies by charging employers between 5 to 7 per cent of a new recruit's annual salary for his services, compared with the conventional tariff of 15-30 per cent.

His agency is also offering a counselling service to help people of a certain age cope. The Forties Plus Initiative will cater for every type of job and includes translation, secretarial and crafts sections. Mr Cushion's main targets include small businesses, "where there is more flexibility over recruitment", and training. He says: "No commercial, industrial or public sector employer can afford to adopt a policy of limiting training to those only in their late teens, 20s and 30s. The mature employee is often more receptive."

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☐ A guide for freelance executives and managers has been produced by GMS, the "rent-a-boss" agency based in Dunstable, Bedfordshire. Subjects covered include job-finding, business plans, fees, finance organisation and personal appearance. *The GMS Guide to Interim Management* costs £4.99, including postage and packaging. Contact: 0582 666970.

☐ Andrea Wilkin Haute Couture won the NatWest Export Award for Small Businesses at the British Apparel Export Awards.

☐ Surrey Training and Enterprise Council says it has helped increase the county's gross domestic product 0.5 per cent with the creation of 1,900 jobs over the past three years.

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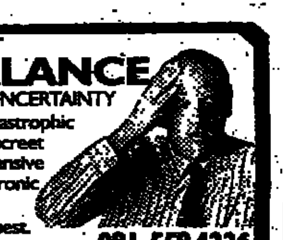

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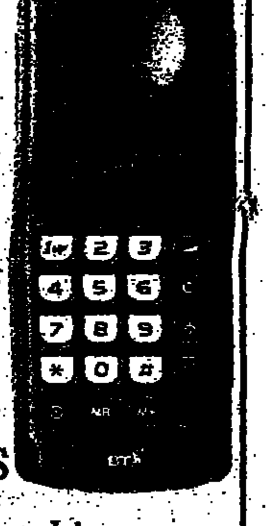

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MIME page 32
Marcel Marceau in London: three hours of concentrated finesse from a past master

ARTS

DANCE page 33
The Royal Ballet takes to the road with a programme of new work for the regions

VISUAL ART: A major exhibition of a painter influenced and influential across the centuries; plus other London shows

Passion wrapped in myths

The Royal Academy's homage to Poussin pulls together the strands of his artistic life, says **Richard Cork**

No self-portrait could be more forbidding than the lofty image painted by Nicolas Poussin around 1650. The middle-aged artist stares out from his studio with a frown. Pursed lips indicate an irritated reluctance to share his private domain. His black, flowing hair is the same colour as his cloak, and they give the picture a funereal mood. He rests his hand on a portfolio like a judge about to deliver sentence. Even the smiling woman in the canvas staked beyond, a muse-like figure supposed to personify the art of painting, does little to alleviate the severity.

Lent by the Louvre to the Royal Academy's grand retrospective, this dour effigy encourages us to think of Poussin as a humourless puritan. But if the strange decision had not been taken to banish drawings from the show, his earlier self-portrait in red chalk would have redressed the balance. Executed 20 years earlier than the Louvre painting, it also presents a frowning man. This time, however, he looks fiery and dishevelled.

About a year before, Poussin had been stricken by a venereal infection. He had a reputation for brawling, and anger blazes out from his pugnacious features. This is an impulsive individual, and his expression goes a long way towards accounting for the impassioned mood at the beginning of the exhibition.

For this remarkable survey, encompassing almost all his finest painted work, reveals a far more complex personality than the Louvre self-portrait. The young Poussin, who had just left his native France for Rome, was a surprisingly sensual artist. After the aggression of an early battlepiece, *The Victory of Joshua over the Amalekites*, he found his forte in alluring scenes drawn from mythology.

Acis and Galatea nuzzle amorously in a painting alive with other erotic encounters. Putti, those cherubic attendants who often played a purely decorative role in 17th-century art, display a surprising boisterousness. They swarm through picture after picture with engaging gusto, picking up arrows, bestowing laurels and, in an especially dramatic picture, seizing Armida's arm as she prepares to kill Rinaldo with a dagger.

They also wail vigorously beside the dead Christ in a powerful Lamentation scene. But on the whole Poussin avoided Christ's Passion as a subject. Admitting that it ignited "deep and distressing thoughts", he turned instead to themes where anguish is tempered by irresistible lyricism. In a delectable painting from Chatsworth, shepherds stare with concern at a skull resting on a tomb inscribed with the chilling words: "*Et In Arcadia Ego*". It should be a gruesome moment, signalling the inescapable presence of death in paradise. But Poussin counters grimness with a seductive vision of Eden. The young shepherdess is among his most beguiling female figures, testifying to the influence of Titian on Poussin's early work.

Poussin's *Tancred and Erminia* (1633-34), one of two versions of the subject at the RA: antique statuary in Rome prompted Poussin to search for a more elevated style

His debt to the Venetian master came to an impressive climax around 1630. This is the moment when Poussin arrived at his maturity, and the paintings he completed then are charged with poetic vitality. In *The Triumph of David*, from the Prado, no hint of callow gloating is allowed to disrupt the meditative mood. True, a couple of putti serenade the victor with a musical instrument, while another hands a golden crown to the winged Victory. But the infants' expressions are notable for their pensiveness. And David leans on Goliath's sword as he gazes, pale and troubled, at his victim's decapitated head. He seems to be acknowledging the inevitability of extinction, even at the peak of his youthful prowess. Even so, Poussin's warm colours and exquisitely refined draughtsmanship pitch the painting with great subtlety between the rival extremes of sadness and elation.

Soon afterwards, in *Diana and Endymion*, he achieves a still more magnificent fusion of disparate feelings. The warmth of the artist's palette takes on a golden aura, matched by the headlong enthusiasm with which he brings his complex fable to life. If he had continued in this vein, Poussin could have become the most captivating of 17th-century painters. *Tancred and Erminia*, along with the enchanting *The Kingdom of Flora*, carry this momentum through to 1631.

Then, however, a change of direction suddenly becomes apparent. Titian's supremacy is challenged by Raphael and, in *Apollo and the Muses on Parnassus*, Poussin sacrifices much of his sensuous poetry for a severe alternative. It is an open homage to the Raphael of the Vatican frescoes. Straining for nobility, Poussin becomes oddly stilted.

By 1632, he had recovered himself sufficiently to produce an inventive second version of *The Triumph of David*. This time, however, the victor betrays no sadness as he strides through the city, bearing Goliath's head on a pole and basking in the crowd's applause. The frieze-like design shows how stern and classical Poussin now wanted to be.

The presence in Rome of so much antique statuary prompted him to search for a more elevated style. His revised version of *Tancred and Erminia* seems heavily reliant on the influence of Roman relief carvings. Even at his most ebullient, in the orgiastic *Triumph of Pan*, all the bacchanalian bodies are defined with rigorous precision. There is no room here for the looser handling, rich pigment and languorous sensuality of former years.

The austerity of Poussin's middle period is most imposing in the set of Seven Sacraments lent by the Duke of Sutherland. Far darker than his early work, they impress with the gravity of their construction and feeling alike. The sense of actors on a stage becomes paramount.

Richard Verdi's arrangement of the show reaches its most eloquent point in this demanding room. Each of the densely orchestrated Sacraments is given far more space than in their normal home, the National Gallery of Scotland, and seem more able to assert the sober, elevated power which so impressed David when the Neo-Classical movement assumed Poussin's mantle and conquered France more than a century later.

All the same, the most impressive room at the Academy comes last. An astonishing number of Poussin's most outstanding landscapes have been assembled, proving that nature finally released him from an excessive reliance on the stiffness of the Roman ideal. The figures who imposed their statuesque authority on many of his biblical pictures dwindle in size and number. They gradually become subservient to the countryside, nowhere more majestically than in the Louvre's awesome *Landscape with Diogenes*. The philosopher is shown in the foreground, casting aside his drinking bowl as the final gesture in his return to a state of nature. The grandeur and verdancy of the well-watered country beyond dominate this large canvas.

Like Diogenes, Poussin was nourished by his growing desire to acknowledge the supremacy of the natural world. He was able to embrace all its moods, from the murderous, implacable darkness of *Landscape with a Man killed by a Snake* to the superbly ordered tranquillity of the recently authenticated *Landscape with a Calm* at Sudeley Castle.

Confronted by this unforced, limpid panorama, I had no difficulty in understanding Cézanne's enthusiasm for Poussin. The latter's spirit informs the great landscapes and bathing scenes of Cézanne's later years, and through him Poussin's work played a formative part in the making of modern art.

● Nicolas Poussin, *sponsored by NatWest, is at the Royal Academy (0171-439 7438) until April 9. His* Dance to the Music of Time *is examined in an exhibition at the Wallace Collection (until April 9).* Poussin Problems *is at the National Gallery until April 9 and* Poussin Before Rome *is at Richard Feigen, 6 Ryder St. SW1 until March 3.* Poussin: Works on Paper *opens at Dulwich Gallery, SE21, on Feb 16. Anthony Blunt's book on Poussin has been reissued by Pallas Athene (£24.95)*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

ONE of the still less publicised aspects of the **National Trust's** activities is its connection with contemporary art. It does indeed have its own quasi-independent Foundation for Art, which exists to commission and acquire work by living artists depicting and interpreting National Trust properties. The late-20th century perspectives on history thus achieved are well illustrated in "Centenary", a selling expedition at Christie's which features work connected with the National Trust from more than fifty artists.

The centenary in question is of course the National Trust's, and the purpose of this show is to raise funds for the Foundation, so that the Trust can continue to develop its commitment to the present and future as well as the past. Anyone expecting an anodyne collection of prospects of stately homes will be very surprised. There are certainly some straightforward portraits of houses, in the John Piper tradition, as there should be. But most of the artists concerned approach the possibilities in fresh and individual ways.

Many of them are anyway concerned with mythologising places, from Simon Lewty's eccentric charts of legendary happening to Hugh Buchanan's dashing surreal watercolours. Maggi Hambling has dazzlingly transfigured many of the Trust's open spaces, while Peter Joyce carries his responses to the edge of abstraction. But then, it is necessary only to glance at the cast-list: any grouping of artists that includes Carel Weight, Glen Baxter and Andy Goldsworthy, Dennis Creffield and James Lynch, Rose Warnock and Leonard McComb should warn one to expect the unexpected.

Christie's, Ryder Street, SW1 (0171-389 2018), until Feb 2

☐ ANOTHER artist obsessively fascinated by the layers of meaning folded into the English landscape is **David Leverett**. The large and dazzlingly coloured canvases in his new show "Icons and sacred places" develop the line established in his recent work. The perspective is usually aerial, the climatic conditions tempestuous. Within the canvas attention is often directed towards the centre by a series of frames within frames, so that the impression is of progressively stripping off superficial obscurities as one approaches the bright heart of things.

The paintings vary in the degree of abstraction achieved, and the weight of mystical significance attached, but fundamentally they represent a modern sensibility working within the epic tradition of late Turner.

Jill George Gallery, 38 Lexington Street, W1 (0171-439 7343), until Feb 7

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

JESSYE NORMAN SINGS BERG. The great diva returns for her annual Impressions concert with the London Symphony Orchestra tonight. She joins Pierre Boulez and the orchestra for two of Berg's early works: his Seven Early Songs and Altenberg Lieder; the programme also includes Boulez's own *Livre pour cordes* and Bartók's *The Miraculous Mandarin*
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and Thurs, 7.30pm. ♿

CINDERELLA: Lindsay Kemp puts his stamp on the fairy tale, subtitling it "A Gothic Operetta": a dissolute court, foot-fetishism, everything you expect. Produced in association with the London International Mime Festival.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-713 6000). Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Feb 4, 4pm. Until Feb 4 ♿

MORE MUSIC AROUND TOWN
Three smaller-scale concerts may also *tempt your musical tastebuds tonight*. Trevor Pinnock directs the masterly baroque instrument ensemble, **The English Concert**, for an all-Mozart programme at St John's, while over at the Wigmore, **Leslie Howard** offers a feast for opera and piano gourmets with "Liszt at the Opera — Encore". Over at the South Bank, the **Scharoun Ensemble** (soloists of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra) open the international chamber music season with works by Mozart and Schubert.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061) 7.30pm. **Wigmore Hall**, Wigmore Street, W1 ♿ (0171-935 2141): 7.30pm. **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, SE1 ♿ (0171-928 8800): 7.45pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Mark Elder and the ***Birmingham Symphony Orchestra*** are joined by the Beaux Arts Trio for a sure-to-be-popular programme of Weber's overture, *The Ruler of the Spirits*, Beethoven's Triple Concerto for *piano, violin and cello and Strauss's* Symphonia Domestica.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (021-212 3333). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. ♿

GLASGOW: **Scottish Opera** fields a fresh young cast for its new production of *The Marriage of Figaro*. Directed by David Leveaux, whose *Turn of the Screw* was one of last season's great occasions. With Paul Whelan, Claire Rutter, Lisa Milne and Stephen Gadd. Nicholas McGegan conducts.
Theatre Royal, Hope Street (0141-332 9000). Tonight, 7.15pm ♿

John Williams, *arguably the most* popular classical guitarist in the world, also returns to Glasgow tonight. He joins the Royal Scottish National Orchestra for a programme which includes Gershwin's *An American in Paris* and Nigel Westlake's *Antarctica*.
Royal Concert Hall, Buchanan Street (227 5511). Tonight, 7.30pm. Williams appears in Birmingham on Friday. ♿

DARTFORD: William Forsythe's *Herman Schmerman* and Balanchine's *Duo Concertant* are two of the highlights of the Royal Ballet's second **Dance Bites** tour, opening today. See feature, page 33
Orchard, Home Gardens (0322 220000). Tonight-Thurs, 7.45pm ♿

LEEDS: Opening night for Sharman *Macdonald's latest*, **The Winter Guest**. *Set on a beach outside Glasgow*, where an assortment of couples, some elderly, some very young, show their colours. Alan Rickman directs Phyllida Law, Sian Thomas, Sandra Voe, Sheila Reid
Courtyard, West Yorkshire Playhouse (0113 244 2111). Tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Feb 1 and 15, 2pm and Feb 4 and 11, 3pm. ♿

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-638-4141) . . . **British Museum**: Chinese Arms and Armour (0171-636 1555) . . . **National Gallery**: The Age of Elegance (0171-839 3321) . . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Christina Rossetti (0171-306 0055) . . . **Serpentine**: Man Ray (0171-402 6075) **Tate**: *Works on Paper: Gainsborough to the Pre-Raphaelites* (0171-887 8000) **V & A**. Streetstyle, Nehru Gallery (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

- ■ House full, returns only
- ▨ Some seats available
- ☐ Seats at all prices

■ **AS YOU LIKE IT**: The return of Declan Donnellan's excellent all-male production for Cheek by Jowl. Adrian *Lester again plays Rosalind, the role that* won him an award. Peter Needham plays Touchstone.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens tomorrow, 7pm, until Feb 11.

☐ **BLASTED**: The squeamish should avoid Sarah Kane's powerful study of rape, cannibalism and the human frenzy to survive by any means
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW3 (0171-730 2554). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Until Feb 4

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne *plays the dilapidated* Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 *(0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm*, mats Sat, 2.30pm.

▨ **THE DANCE OF DEATH.** Strindberg's impassioned, sometimes comic, view of marriage as hell. Subtle characterisation by Gemma Jones and John Neville.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Until Mar 4. ♿

☐ **DANGEROUS CORNER**: Keith Baxter directs an excellent cast in Priestley's psychological thriller about the grey areas in people's lives it is wiser *not to probe into*.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-867 1119). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed 3pm and Sat 5pm. until Mar 11.

■ **EASTER**: Strindberg's drama of shame, self-pity, penance, clairvoyant joy in nature and the freedom of springtime. Katie Mitchell directs.
Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Now previewing, 7.15pm; opens tomorrow ♿

☐ **THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR**: Terry Hands's first *production here, after his long time in* charge of the RSC. Denis Quilley plays the fat knight outwitted by the wives.
National (Olivier), South Bank SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing 7.15pm; today, 2pm. Opens Thurs ♿

■ **SUZANNA ANDLER**: Opening night for Susan Hampshire as the enigmatic heroine in Marguerite Duras's lyrical drama of late love. Lisa *Forrell directs the author's recently* revived text.
BAC 1, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; Sun, 5.30pm. ♿

■ ***THE YIDDISH TROJAN WOMEN***: Odd title for Carole Braverman's play about four women fighting to win out over destiny. Said to swing "from side-aching hilarity to heart-wrenching *tragedy". Hettie MacDonald directs.*
Cockpit, Gateforth St, NW8 (0171-402 5081). Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Tue-Sun, 8pm, mat Sun, 4pm. ♿

☐ **THE THREE LIVES OF LUCIE *CABROL***: *Award-winning performance* from Lilo Baur in Simon McBurney's thrilling production on the loves and anguish of peasant life. Theatre de Complicite begin an international tour with five weeks here
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm. ♿

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (0171-930 8800) . . . ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . . ▨ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) . . . ☐ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) . . . ☐ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . . . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (0171-494 5045) . . . ▨ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . . ☐ **Hamlet**: Gielgud (0171-494 5065) . . . ▨ **Les Misérables**, Palace (0171-434 0909) ▨ **Miss Saigon**, Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion (0171-839 4488) . . . ☐ **Neville's Island**: Apollo (0171-494 5070) . . . ■ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . ☐ **On Approval**: Playhouse (0171-839 4401) . . . ☐ **Once on This Island**: Island *(Royalty), final week (0171-494 5090)* ▨ **A Passionate Woman**: Comedy (0171-369 1731) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**: Strand, *final week (0171-930 8800)* . . ☐ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (0171-836 8888) . . . ▨ **The Sisters Rosensweig**, Old Vic (0171-928 7616) ▨ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) . . . ▨ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ■ **Three Tall Women**: Wyndhams (0171-369 1736) . . . ▨ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed *version of Anne Rice's book*. Director, Neil Jordan.
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

ROUGH DIAMONDS (PG): Trials and tribulations of a musically gifted cattle *rancher. Bland vehicle for Jason* Donovan, directed by Donald Crombie.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

THE TIN DRUM (18): Volker Schlöndorff's 1979 adaptation of the Günter Grass novel has lost none of its power. With David Bennent as the stunted boy in Hitler's Europe.
Everyman (0171-435 1525) **NFT** (0171-928 3232)

WELCOME II THE TERRORDOME (18): Crude, despairing, inflammatory *vision of the future from young black* British film-maker Ngozi Onwurah
Electric ♿ (0171-792 2020) **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire (0800-888 911) **MGM Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

LOVE, CHEAT & STEAL (18): Failed film noir from new director William Curran, with Madchen Amick, John Lithgow and Eric Roberts.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG): The King of *Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas.* Technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick.
Odeon Kensington (0426 914666)

◆ ***PULP FICTION*** (18): Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** ♿ (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

LA REINE MARGOT (18): Bloody, brooding, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle *Adjani and Daniel Auteuil. Director*, Patrice Chéreau.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720)

Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

SHALLOW GRAVE (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs.
Gate ♿ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. With James Woods, Eric Roberts, Rod Steiger. Director, Luis Llosa.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

SPEED (15): Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus. With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper.
Odeon Mezzanine ♿ (0426 915683)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic *adventures of Kurt Russell and James* Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun; Roland Emmerich directs.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 *9772)* ***Chelsea (0171-352 5096)*** **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15): Kieślowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives, a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis *Trintignant*.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Minema** (0171-235 4225)

CURRENT

EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES (15): Unwieldy version of Tom Robbins's zany novel from cult director Gus Van Sant. Uma Thurman heads a cameo-*strewn cast*.
Electric ♿ (0171-792 2020/0328) **MGM Piccadilly** (0171-437 3561)

THEATRE: Movement from Marcel Marceau; Buddhist stories; and a double dose of syrup

Mime from the past master

The Overcoat
Queen Elizabeth Hall

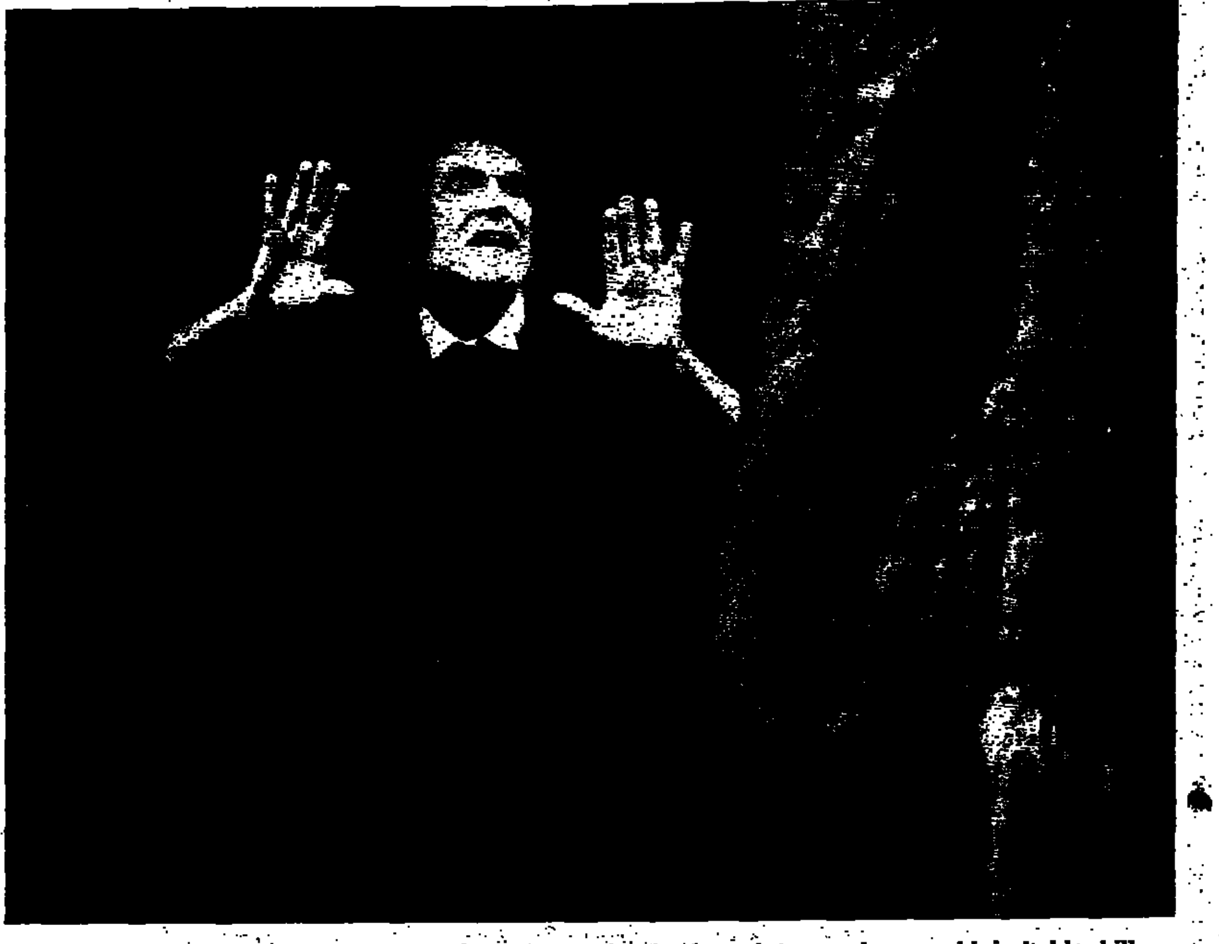
MARCEL MARCEAU is coming up to 72, yet there he was last week at the London Mime Festival, coping with a workload *that would have crumpled* the shoulders of Atlas. True, he did not turn double-somersaults or play leapfrog with the young disciples he had brought with him; but then spectacular acrobatics were never his thing. What he gave us was three hours of *concentrated* finesse, as taxing to the body, not to mention the spirit, as the obviously sweaty stuff.

Marceau came to the meat of the evening, *a revival of the production of* Gogol's *Overcoat* he first presented 44 years ago, only after he had spent 75 minutes alone on the stage, regalvanising the clown *he* created even earlier. The white face beneath a Harpo-like frizz gave his Bip an ageless look, while experience had honed the movements themselves down to the minimum needed to bring to life a painter agonising over his canvas, a fiddler wondering why nobody is filling his hat with money, or simply a pair of hands coyly teasing each other.

Marceau's Bip had plenty of funny *moments*, notably as a defence lawyer who made a heartfelt appeal on behalf of his client, only to forget that the heart itself is on his left and not his *right side, and a china salesman who* ran amok after teetering up ladders for a difficult customer. Darker touches came only in a long, dreamlike item called "Bip Remembers", and then sparingly. Marceau faced a firing party, braved a battlefield, bayoneted the enemy as the bullets flew.

But all that merged into moments that gently evoked the coconut shy and the hurdy-gurdy. Marceau never succumbed to the great peril facing the mime, which is tweeness or cuteness; but it was obvious that his material came from the late 1940s and 1950s, not *the harder, more cynical 1990s.*

MARILYN KINGWILL



Marcel Marceau: timeless characters given extra pathos by the artist's experience and inimitable skill

In some ways that was a relief. It also left him looking a bit out of touch. Watch Steven Berkoff mime a lager lout and his dog, and you instantly know all you need about our yob culture. Watch Marceau mime watching a train go by, and you think how deftly he mimes watching trains go by.

Occasionally, the movements were unclear. What on earth were the characters in *The Overcoat* doing as *they beavered away under the eye of a* Mephistophelean gent with a tiny beard? Crocheting tapestries or creating illuminated manuscripts? Those ignorant of Gogol's story would have been hard put to guess the truth, which was copying papers, writing letters and doing whatever clerks in 19th-century Russian bureaucracies did.

Never mind. Gogol's tale of threadbare Akakii, who works day and night to buy a warm coat, only to lose it to *robbers*, came complete with screech*ing winds*, bowed black figures, surreal dances involving vast, bear-like garments, and Marceau looking as if he had been drawn by Phiz for a death-scene in Dickens. Those *skeletal*, trudging legs and pinched, wizened cheeks gave the portrait a pathos it cannot have had in 1951. Age had combined with skill to bring desperation to life.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Zen and the art of moving goalposts

Interrogations
ICA

JUST for three days Yoshi Oida, a founder-member of the Peter Brook Company, endeavoured to awaken a keen but somewhat stolid British audience to the mysterious simplicities of Zen. Looking very contained within himself, wearing loose clothes to allow free movement to limbs and muscles, he sat on the grey mat and moved a finger.

Wolf-Dieter Trustedt, sitting near by, picked up two black pebbles and struck them together. Now a succession of gentle taps *fading* towards silence, now a loud crack. He kept his eyes fixed on Oida and at times it was uncertain if his music was accompanying the mime or the other way round. The elements of a Zen question there.

The moving finger became accusatory, self-accusatory, sheepish (I'm still talking about a finger), animated, *happy and disappointed* before allowing itself to sink back, level with the horizon of the hand. Perhaps this sequence is the answer to all the questions he later put to us, and the questions put by pupils in the stories he told: what is the meaning of life?

Zen is the art of moving goalposts. You shoot the ball where you suppose it should go and score nothing. You wander the pitch, searching for the missing goal, and *enlightenment* comes *when* you grasp that there never was one in the first place.

Half an hour passed before the audience ventured answers to the questions they were being asked. Rational or bizarre, all were rejected with a sad smile. At least he did not slap us with his bamboo sticks, like the revered masters in his stories, though after *some particularly* banal suggestions a trace of exasperation may have been present in the otherwise disconnected *comment: "England is a very* peaceful country."

Between the story-telling he suggested answers by way of movement and dance: energy, desperation and a quiet end. His body is lithe, his sense of balance remarkable, and when the attention wanders (as I must confess mine did) the eye *and ear can marvel at* Trustedt's wondrous array of instruments. A metal bowl part filled with water, long booming pipes that sound like bitterns tuning up, and an electric Aeolian harp that appears to be Herr Trustedt's own invention. A cross between a five-string guitar and a surveyor's rod, it hummed with strange harmonics, otherworldly, like the wind playing on distant stalactites.

Music asks no questions, *offers no enlightening* answers and just is. While the subtle simplicities of Zen can prove too direct to follow, the music takes you there another way.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Limp and ludicrous

Dancing with *Shadows / Shame*
Lilian Baylis

THIS double-bill is almost awful enough to be cult viewing. However, *more than three hours of such atrociousness surely take the punter into* the realms of masochism. First comes a dramatic monologue with balletic intrusions. Guy Lynn pretends to be a spastic boy with painfully, if not offensively, little authenticity. His intentions are good, I am sure, but his character comes out like Quasimodo with cod tics.

The story of the boy and his daddy, a dancer determined to help his son stand on his own two feet, is symbolically crass and excruciatingly sentimental. Ramming home the point about reaching for freedom, Lynn smiles for long stretches at a plastic butterfly, while we are blessed with fluttery, but otherwise meaningless, chunks of ballet by dancers kitted out for something supremely naff on ice. In between we behold the joys of father-son bonding. They make physical contact, we gather, and sing a song. It's caring-sharing, touchy-feely, huggy-wuggy time. Excuse me while I'm sicky-wicky.

En suite comes a melodramatic mess of a rock musical. *Shame*, by Lynn and Ryan Craig, is a two-hour embarrassment depicting Italian family passions, patriarchal muscle-flexing and anti-Semitism under Mussolini. Papa, so hot for his niece that he will jealously betray the Jewish boys he is sheltering, has all the Latin machismo of a chap from the Third Programme with his sleeves rolled up. His kitchen appears to be entangled with the city's quay. The singers are regularly drowned by the band. Most of the songs I caught were composed *on a three-note piano*. A terrific musical for lip-readers.

Can't something better be done with the Lilian Baylis, a venue backing on to Sadler's Wells with its own spacious café? It could be a valuable experimental studio, even an ICA for Islington. As it is, it feels like a sad waste down a sidestreet.

KATE BASSETT

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DANCE: Covent Garden performers head for the regions; and a great Romantic ballet fails to catch fire

Still enough to chew on

Dance Bites, the Royal Ballet's tour of smaller work, is scaled down this year. But it still remains an important showcase, as **Debra Craine** reports

Now that the Royal Ballet is in the business of recycling a dozen saleable favourites for its Covent Garden audiences, anything that provides a forum for new work is seized upon as a showcase for choreographers and a shot in the arm for dancers. So it is a shame that Dance Bites, the company's annual jaunt around the regions, has scaled down its ambitions this year.

As they did in 1994, the three house choreographers — Ashley Page, William Tuckett and Matthew Hart — have work in the 1995 mini-tour, but not all of it is new. And even the new ballets are not quite as impressive as they were when they started life on the drawing board a few months ago.

The original intention was to repeat last year's successful formula: new work supported by one proven box-office draw. But because the tour, which starts tonight in Dartford, was scheduled earlier than the company would have liked, and because of the havoc wreaked on its rehearsal schedules by the cancellation of Michael Clark's piece earlier in the season, there simply was not enough time to do everything that had been planned.

"We wanted everything to look really good," says Anthony Russell Roberts, the Royal Ballet's administrative director. "We wanted performances to be top quality, and the way to achieve that was not to tell the choreographer 'You've got half as much time as you'd like, see what you can do'. We cut our coat according to the time that was available.

"While there was some disappointment — we would have liked to have a completely new programme — the fact is that we have a rattling good programme. There is work by young choreographers, even though some of it is being revisited and reworked. But the whole idea of Dance Bites is alive and well and will develop over the years. It's exactly what we want."

So Page now creates one pas de deux (to music by Brian Eno), instead of four; Hart revives *Solo* (which he dances himself), instead of making a new piece for 15 dancers; Tuckett revives *A Shropshire Lad* and choreographs a solo to the jazz standard "Lover Man". The programme also features the company premiere of Balanchine's *Duo Concertant*, a work which will move to the Opera House later this season; Ashton's *Thaïs* pas de deux; and Forsythe's popular *Herman Schmerman*, a repeat from last year's tour.

In years to come, the Royal Ballet hopes to extend Dance Bites, certainly to three weeks, perhaps more. And a Scottish date is also being contemplated, along with a London date away from the Opera House. Even some small-scale dance festivals abroad may be included.

"Dance Bites is a fantastic opportunity," says principal dancer Deborah Bull, one of more than 20 dancers who will visit four centres over the next two weeks. "It's good for dancers to get out and be on all the time, to cope and use a bit of initiative and solve their own problems, rather than being sheltered by this huge umbrella here at the Opera House.

"The great thing about touring is that being on every night means you have no fear of being on stage. It can be a problem at Covent Garden when performances are so spaced out — it can be weeks between shows for principals. On tour we can try slightly different approaches. We can be a little braver — you don't feel it's the one show, the press is here, my mum is here. And being on every night certainly keeps you in top shape."

- *Dance Bites is at the Orchard Theatre in Dartford, Kent (01322 220000) tonight to Thursday; Cambridge Corn Exchange (01223 357851), Saturday; Leicester Haymarket (01533 539797), Jan 30-31; Theatre Royal, Newcastle (0191 2322061), Feb 2-4*

Matthew Hart dances *Solo*, which he created himself, in this year's Dance Bites. The Royal Ballet's other two house choreographers — Ashley Page and William Tuckett — also have work on the tour

Two bright sparks, one damp squib

Giselle
Covent Garden

If Saturday's Royal Ballet revival of *Giselle* proved anything, it was that good dancing alone does not a good performance make, *Debra Craine* writes. Fine displays of technique and artistry graced both performances, but in each case the sum was less than the total of its parts. Or, more correctly, its partnerships.

Neither the evening team of Leanne Benjamin and Bruce Sansom, nor the matinee pairing of Nicola Roberts and Errol Pickford generated sufficient passion to truly illuminate this greatest of all Romantic ballets.

Benjamin and Sansom are both excellent dancers in their own ways: she darkly dramatic and physically accomplished (although perhaps a shade too strong for *Giselle*); he elegant and intellectually agile. But put them together in a delicately balanced work like this and their individual assets are wasted on each other.

Sansom's Count Albrecht was the more successful characterisation, his innocuous boyish charm deliciously spiced with a dash of roguishness. But there was no imbalance of power in his relationship with Giselle to spark the subsequent tragedy. His Albrecht was never likely to have got the better of this peasant girl — Benjamin (making her debut as Giselle) possessed too much flirtatious artfulness to play the innocent victim convincingly.

The lack of common ground in their partnership was most acute in Act II, where they failed to sustain a palpable romantic intensity, despite the glorious signposts of the choreography. Benjamin and Sansom were emoting all right, but each within their own enclosed universe.

Different problems beset the matinee. Pickford, making his debut as Albrecht, was simply no match for Roberts's superbly realised reading. He had his strengths — an impressive elevation to his jumps, a sly arrogance to his manner — but was unable to flesh out the contradictions in his character.

Roberts, on the other hand, is the perfect Romantic dancer: airy, gracious and credibly tinged with the sadness of her fate. Her Giselle was a simple girl, unaware of the seductive allure of her kittenish adorability and easily awed by the count's smooth compliments. Her solos were radiant with the quality of her dancing: light, playful jumps, exceptional balances, arms that moved with a vibrancy of their own.

Her mad scene was outstanding. The realisation that Pickford's nobleman had deceived her drove Roberts to a rich language of reaction: from bedraggled to hysterical, from feral to fey. If anything, she was even better in the graveside scene of Act II, making one believe in the transience of her ghostly presence and the tenacity of her love for Albrecht, even after death. It was a performance to treasure.

As always, it was good to welcome back Peter Wright's *Giselle* to Covent Garden. Its clarity and logic are refreshing in this age of fussy production values, and John Macfarlane's gentle designs flatter both the dancers and the ballet's heritage.

DEE CONWAY

Leanne Benjamin and Bruce Sansom: individually talented, they failed to click in their partnership

MUSIC: Happy anniversaries for concert giants; Russian bear has Verdi on the ropes

Gallic genius

LSO/Boulez
Barbican

AFTER the masterclass came the first concert of the London Symphony Orchestra's seventieth birthday celebrations for Pierre Boulez. A reassuringly vast crowd turned out, proof if it were needed that Boulez really is no longer a man standing aloof on the margins. Quality will always out, though it might take a little while. That has certainly been the case with the repertoire he conducted here, a rich mixture of Stravinsky, Webern and Boulez, crowned by Bartók's brutal First Piano Concerto of 1926.

The programme began gently enough, with Stravinsky's glitteringly colourful *Chant du Rossignol* of 1917. Boulez kept it a shade cool, the right thing to do if the implicit narration is to unfold naturally. But the LSO, on top form throughout the afternoon, enjoyed the music's colours to the full.

However loved the man has become as a conductor, one might expect his own music to have fallen on slightly less sympathetic ears. But that was not the case here. His *Notations I-IV*, reconceived in 1977-78 from the 12 *Notations* for piano of 1945 (the other eight are, in Boulez's way of things, still in progress), were greeted with a roar of approval, and rightly so. If more Gallically decorative than Germanically introspective as Webern is, *Notations* is music of equal purity and directness, breathing elegance in its harmonic relationships, proportions, colours and rhetoric, and wonderfully delicately scored; harpists can rarely have had such a good deal in any orchestral work.

After the interval came Webern's Six Pieces for Orchestra, Op 6b, anathema to an only slightly earlier generation than our own but welcomed by performers and listeners alike as an old classic. This performance, full of detail, had an overriding sense of naturalness about it, its ebbs and flows and nervous explosions and pulsating motor-rhythms emanating from the rhythms of our common psychological experience. Boulez, clinical in action but never in interpretation, made the most of each of these concentrated nuggets of expression, extracting maximum colour, balancing every element with utmost care and efficiency of physical gesture.

Finally Daniel Barenboim came on to play the Bartók concerto, the most percussive of the three, which he did with a formidable pugnacity, hard-edged and brittle rather than brilliant. I thought that even this team would not last the pace in the finale, into which conductor and pianist threw themselves with abandon. That, of course, was just the sensation they, not to mention the composer, intended.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Moor like macho

Otello
Covent Garden

WITH the arrival of Vladimir Bogachov from the Bolshoi to join Elena Prokina and Sergei Leiferkus, the Royal Opera for the first time fields an all-Russian trio of principals in Verdi's *Otello*.

Bogachov, stocky, barrel-chested and heavily blacked up in the title role, bears more than a passing resemblance to Orson Welles's unforgettable screen Othello.

But the comparisons end there. On his house debut at Covent Garden the Russian tenor proved to be a brawny and determined but unsubtle interpreter of Verdi's title role.

For the last three acts of the opera Otello is made a raging bull, goaded by each successive lance of jealousy. At the end, when Otello asks whether heaven has no more blows to send, he certainly has a point.

The voice lacks the tenderness necessary for the Act I love duet, which here failed to light the stars in the Cypriot heaven, but it has a clear clarion ring to it. Elijah Moshinsky's production, now revived under the guiding hand of Richard Gregson, allows Otello to sing much of his music close to the front of the stage, and Bogachov made the most of it.

The final "Niun mi tema" summed up the performance. The opening words were flung out into the house with full command, but then Bogachov resorted to much *parlando* as he crawled across the stage to Desdemona's body. The fighting Moor is there, but the hero of Venice is not. It is a mystery how so simple a man ever became governor of Cyprus.

But then it is an even greater mystery how a soldier so obviously competent as Iago could have been overlooked for promotion. By being not much liked, perhaps. Sergei Leiferkus never overdoes the villainy, but with an artful mixture of snarl and slime in the voice makes his very complete Iago the performance of the evening.

There is much, too, to admire in Prokina's doting Desdemona, especially the deep throb of remorse in Act II at the thought that she might have offended her lord. She held back a bit in the Act III finale until Carlo Rizzi in the pit at last got the chorus going. The Willow Song drew an exquisite performance from both soprano and conductor.

Among the home team, Paul Charles Clarke was an impressive playboy of a Cassio, but the Emilia was poor and indistinct.

JOHN HIGGINS

Strings that sing of a tortured soul

Borodin Quartet
Wigmore Hall

WITH so many professional musicians present, the audience alone could have made quite an impressive musical offering on the occasion of the Borodin Quartet's 50th birthday. But, with Yuri Bashmet and Mikhail Milman joining it for an introductory Tchaikovsky *Souvenir de Florence*, the Borodin was determined to sing for its supper. Indeed, the Wigmore Hall concerts are only the beginning of a year of European touring.

Shostakovich: studied and played to perfection

Only Valentin Berlinsky, the cellist, has been with the group since its inception; Dmitri Shebalin, viola player and son of one of Shostakovich's closest musical friends, joined in 1953. Both players suspended public operations for two years to re-study repertoire with their new violinists, Andrei Abramenkov and Mikhail Kopelman, who joined in 1974 and 1976.

Their cycle of the Shostakovich quartets at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in March 1986 is still talked about with awe and affection. Two moments from it were re-created in Sunday's first of three anniversary concerts, in the Borodin's performances of the Seventh and Eighth Quartets.

Many musicians agonise about the interpretative stance to take in music whose every moment of self-revelation seems questioned by ambivalence and irony. The Borodin's understanding of Shostakovich takes it straight to the heart of the matter.

The Seventh Quartet, terse and muted, was played in an anguished undertone, disturbed only by the dry, hard light of its opening and the abrasive irritations of the final fugue. Here, it seemed, was the very essence of the composer. In the Eighth, the pattern of allusions — to the composer's own tortured identity and to significant moments in his own works — was drawn in searing articulation, an acute sensitivity to harmonic change, and a singing which seemed more eloquent than the human voice itself.

The length and concentration of the final resolution left the audience audibly gasping.

HILARY FINCH

'The audience lapped up every vibrant moment' Independent

Evening Standard

'Pure gold entertainment' Guardian

Independent on Sunday

Venet an Tw ns

BY CARLO GOLDONI
IN A NEW VERSION BY RANJIT BOLT

ROCK: Smiths-inspired grunge blows away the headliners as tomorrow's heroes strut into the spotlight

Marion better than Salt as a cure for itchy feet

Veruca Salt et al
Astoria II, W1

WHEN the *New Musical Express* Brat prizes are awarded tonight to a clutch of eager young bands, the recipients will be looking forward to a larger slice of the limelight. The success of the likes of Suede and Elastica, previous winners of the Brats (a cheeky tilt at the music industry's more sedate Brits Awards), will give them even more hope for the future.

The defining characteristic of the four bands that ended the latest series of *NME On* nights — 60ft Dolls, Skunk Nansie, Marion and Chicago's Veruca Salt — is guitar-generated grunge. Heavy metal, punk and, in Marion's case, the Morrissey factor, have also seeped into the mix which, although uneven, was mostly arresting.

There were some recognisable historical repetitions. The 60ft Dolls, actually three young men of moderate height, were not dissimilar to an early Jam in form and content. But if the metal thrashing of Skunk Nansie's over-cranked guitars recalled Motörhead, their shaven-headed black vocalist, Skin, had an idiosyncratic quality of her own.

The band relies heavily on the charisma of this slender giantess and her confrontational songs. "Intellectualise My Blackness" and "Little Baby Swastika" are typical, their energy unmistakable.

Veruca Salt, the headliners whose debut album, *American Thighs*, established the quartet as a skilled songwriting unit in the pop (raucous) division, were the biggest draw of the night, filling the theatre with a word-perfect crowd.

Sharing vocals and guitar duties, Louise Post and Nina Gordon pumped out a powerful, monolithic sound, underpinned by bassist Steve Lack and drummer Jim Shapiro.

Salt nevertheless lacked a certain geography. Excellent songs — "Get Back", "Seether" and "25" — got lost in a sonic maelstrom, leaving the previous contenders, Marion, as the evening's clearest successes.

Like Gene, Manchester's Marion follow a current trend for ambiguous names. Led by 19-year-old vocalist Jaime Harding, Marion combine a Smiths-inspired lyricism with substantial instrumental panache.

Guitarists Phil Cunningham and Anthony Grantham delivered dynamic harmonies, while a rhythm section driven by bassist Julian Phillips and drummer Murad Mousa provided an invigoratingly speedy pace.

Harding is already a compelling performer and songs like "Time" and "The Only Way" augur well. Future bands hoping to follow in the footsteps of Marion and Gene on the road to rock'n'roll success may care to note that the names Evelyn and Shirley are not yet taken.

LOUISE GRAY

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A flood of new instructions in January 1995 is further confirmation that the legal recruitment market is becoming significantly more active. The eight jobs above represent a cross-section of recent instructions. For more detail on these jobs, or career advice generally, please contact **Andrew Russell, Lisa Hicks** or **Miranda Smyth** on **071-377 0510** (071-622 6213 evenings/weekends) or write to us at **Zarak Macrae Brenner**, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. *Confidential fax 071-247 5174. Internet e-mail* **andrew@zmb.co.uk**

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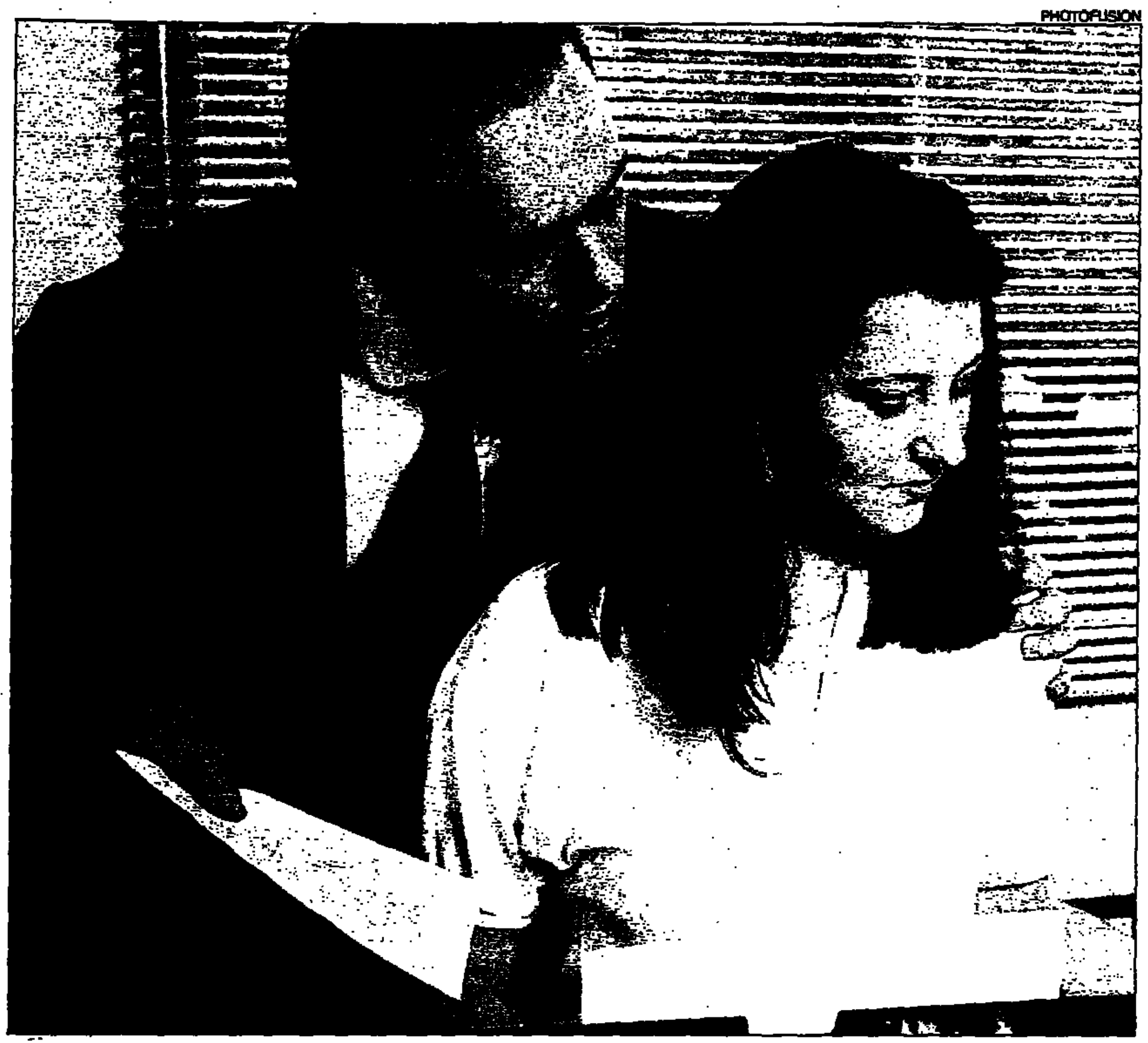
Rising cost of harassment

A recent payout to a secetary should alert law firms, reports

Frances Gibb


PHOTOFUSION

A man might not see this as harassment but it could land his employer in trouble. In-house training is one solution

Lawyers have become victims of the latest growth area in the courts — sexual harassment — and find themselves paying an increasingly high price for insensitive behaviour.

In what is thought to be the biggest British award of its kind involving a law firm, Clyde & Co has paid £20,000 in an out-of-court settlement to a marketing manager who claimed she was forced to leave after being sexually harassed by a male partner in the wake of an affair.

At the same time, a barrister has been found guilty of professional misconduct by the Bar's disciplinary tribunal for sexually harassing two women — a client and a solicitor's clerk. His identity is being preserved during the period of appeal.

The cases are the latest to have surfaced within the profession, whose members were in a distinctly more sober mood at some of the recent Christmas festivities. Margaret McCabe, barrister and organiser of a conference on women lawyers [see page 37] to be held on April 8, says: "When I started at the Bar, sexual harassment as a term didn't exist. If someone made a remark or a pass, you just told them where to go or put up with it. Now people are starting to do something."

Next month, a report from Sheffield University will show high levels of sexual harassment at the Bar; 40 per cent of female Bar pupils and women in their first years say they have experienced harassment.

What has made the difference, say employment lawyers, is growing awareness of what amounts to sexual harassment, coupled with the lifting of the £11,000 ceiling on the compensation that can be paid for sex discrimination claims, which includes sexual harassment. Since last November, industrial tribunals have had power to make unlimited awards and the average in sex-discrimination cases has risen to £21,000.

People suffering harassment are increasingly resorting to tribunals, often because their complaints are not taken seriously in-house.

Julie-Anne Wildman accepted compensation from Clyde & Co after she lodged a tribunal claim that a senior litigation partner, started an "intense campaign of sexual harassment" when she tried to end their affair. In papers filed in support of her claim, she said that when she complained to other partners, they failed to intervene. As a result, she left her £37,000-a-year marketing manager job in January 1994. The firm and the partner both strongly denied sexual discrimination.

Baker & McKenzie is still reeling from the record award this year of £4.5 million to a secretary in the firm in America, after indiscretions by one of the partners. The award was made to Rena Weeks, who claimed that Martin Greenstein reached from behind to put chocolates in the pockets of her blouse and, pulling back her arms, commented on her breasts.

Though that award, now subject to appeal, was made in California, and included punitive damages which cannot be awarded here, the impact was felt in British law firms. At an estimated cost of £100,000, Baker & McKenzie's London branch launched a training programme for all staff in sexual harassment. Fraser Younson who is running the programme for each of the firm's 360 staff — from partners to clerks — says: "We are trying to get over the message that what might be a joke to one person might be highly offensive to another."

Sexual harassment, he says, is any "unwanted or unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature" and that can be manifested in many ways. "It doesn't have to be someone in authority harassing a junior staff member; it can be someone of the same level, by a man to a woman or vice versa — it can be by anyone, anywhere and in a variety of ways."

Mr Younson, who runs similar training for the firm's own clients, claims: "Every firm has been in a situation where a client has been too familiar with a female lawyer."

All staff attend group sessions, where they examine hypothetical cases and are asked to say whether or not the behaviour involved was appropriate. "For the first time," he says, "you might have a junior person saying to someone senior that certain behaviour is unacceptable. There is no right answer; it's about giving the right messages. If you ask someone for lunch, make clear they know why."

The training also involves instruction on how to avoid and tackle harassment. Mr Younson says: "We want to create a friendly, professional working environment where individuals' integrity is respected, not some sort of political correctness. There is nothing wrong with people having lunch together, provided they don't step over a certain line. And if someone says "no," that answer should be accepted."

Baker & McKenzie's steps have not been widely followed. But the need for all firms, legal and otherwise, to act is acute. The Equal Opportunities Commission confirms that numbers of claims are rising, fuelled partly by publicity given to large awards. A recent Industrial Society survey of more than 1,700 employers showed that more than half working women suffer what they see as sexual harassment.

But law firms so far are doing little about it, even though the Baker & McKenzie case was not the first.

After a Christmas party held by the City law firm Nabarro Nathanson at which a partner was said to eaten a 7in chocolate penis covered with cream, Donna Van Den Berghen, a secretary, claimed her boss touched her breasts and gave her a bear hug. She was awarded £4,700 in compensation and damage for injury to feelings.

A survey by *Legal Business* magazine found that law firms either had no policy or included anti-sexual harassment statements only in their staff manuals. Training was nonexistent. The magazine commented that such "inaction reeks of complacency".

Yet more employees are making sexual harassment claims. Gill Howard, an employment lawyer says: "Women are bringing these claims because they have confidence in the law and in the levels of damages likely to be awarded. But it is not because of the damages that they bring the claims: they are more aware that what is being done to them is unlawful; they are more confident about seeing a lawyer. If there has been sexual harassment, they expect some redress."

Don't put the law into public hands

Leave legal wording alone, says **Francis Bennion**

A prime cause of the horrendous cost of legal advice and litigation, now under investigation by Lord Woolf, is the obscurity of the law. There have been recent complaints about this from, among others, the National Consumer Council and the Law Commission. But what is meant by "the obscurity of the law"?

In its recent pamphlet "The Cost of Justice", the National Consumer Council says that if government departments and the National Audit Office find it difficult to interpret legislation, what chance has the man in the street? My answer, which many people will dislike, is that the man, or woman, in the street should not attempt to interpret legislation. I refer, of course, to legislation still in the form in which it was enacted. What the lay person needs is explanations and summaries.

The Law Commission, in a recent paper on reforms in *Judicial Review*, says it wants to get rid of Latin terms such as *certiorari*. Jack Beatson, a former Law Commissioner, complains that law students cannot pronounce this word. My answer is that, as their predecessors had to, they should learn to pronounce it. In a letter to *The Times* (November 1), Dr M.J. Pelling objects to replacing concise Latin terms, whose meanings are not hard to learn, with less elegant English terminology.

Woolf: investigation

Another would-be reformer who believes our law should be expressed in plain English is Martin Cutts. The Plain Language Commission has just published Mr Cutts's *Lucid Law*, a report with a foreword by no less than Sir Thomas Bingham, the Master of the Rolls. The press release says it proves that abolition of "statutory gobbledygook" would save millions in legal fees. So does Lord Woolf have his answer? Again, I think not.

Mr Cutts says his report meets a 1987 challenge by Sir Henry de Waal, then head of what Mr Cutts, using plain English, calls the Government's law-writing office. Its official name is the Parliamentary Counsel Office (I was once a member of it). The challenge was to put a statute into plainer language without losing significant meaning.

Mr Cutts chose to operate on the Timeshare Act 1992, and claims to have vanquished Sir Henry. The Act's draftsman, Euan Sutherland, thinks otherwise (see *Statute Law Review*, winter, 1993). Sir Thomas Bingham seems to be on the side of Mr Cutts. However, a close analysis of his foreword shows that with commendable judicial impartiality he has refrained from committing himself one way or the other.

The greatly respected Law Lord, Lord Reid, said technicalities and jargon are all very well as a system of shorthand among lawyers, but "if you cannot explain your result in simple English there is probably something wrong with it." Lord Reid was too acute a lawyer to mean this. He was addressing the law teachers and, I suspect, pulling their legs.

As a would-be reformer myself, I believe that the biggest stumbling block is communicating the law to lawyers. Unless they are clear about the nature and characteristics of legislative texts there is not much chance that anyone else will be. So reformers like Mr Cutts need to start by accepting that law is an expertise.

In legal texts, unexplained terms of art and references (express or implied) to legal rules, doctrines and sources are essential. Not one of these can be fully understood by non-experts in law, any more than medical language can be fully understood by non-experts in medicine.

True, the desired effect can sometimes be achieved without use of special language. But it takes a lawyer to know whether simple words in what should be a technical text really carry their apparent simple meaning. This brings us to the conclusive argument against Mr Cutts, and anyone else who would have the citizen consult raw legislation. It may be positively dangerous to encourage non-lawyers to think they can understand legal texts unaided by expert advice.

So my advice to Lord Woolf is this. Do not look for savings by trying to make the law easier for lay persons to understand. Instead, make it easier for lawyers to use. Plain English and reducing jargon have only a small part to play in this. Much more important is improving the arrangement of the law (more consolidation and codification), the methods of finding it and discovering whether it has been brought into force or has ceased to be in force, the techniques of interpretation, and the system of transitional provisions. And we need to move quickly towards integrating our law with that of the European Union, and rationalising and combining the interpretative principles applying to each.

None of the above detracts from the need to simplify legal documents, such as forms and explanatory leaflets, which are intended to be read by members of the public. There is plenty that needs to be tackled. All that well-meaning interveners like Martin Cutts do is to distract attention from the real problems and let the Government off the hook.

● *The author is an Oxford don and a former parliamentary counsel.*

OUTS

New York alert

THE NEW York legal world is full of stories based on speculation that the Princess of Wales may move to New York. Rumours are also rife that the Prince of Wales has retained Howard Weitzman, Michael Jackson's lawyer, in case a custody battle ensues over the future heir to the throne.

The Princess is said to have been advised that an American court would be unlikely to grant custody to an adulterous husband. The *New York Post* says: "These are just rumours. But when you are talking about Charles and Di and their whacky world, almost anything can be true."

Charities beware

CHARITIES have again been given a warning by Scotland Yard and the Charity Commission to be on the lookout for faxes from bogus firms of Nigerian solicitors.

The faxes purport to be from lawyers who are administering estates where substantial sums have been left to charity. The catch comes in the form of a request for the several thousand pounds of "Nigerian taxes" which must be paid first.

The Children's Society, Save The Children and Friends of the Earth have all been approached. The same con trick was tried out on a number of charities last year.

Liability shifts

THE Court of Appeal's decision not to allow leave to appeal in the case of Crown Estate Commissioners v John Mowlem & Co Ltd, is causing many an architect concern.

The case concerned the interpretation of standard building contract JCT 80. The effect of the court's decision is to shift liability for materials and workmanship from the contractor to the consultant who signs the final certificate — usually the architect.

Those who fear that claims brought in the light of the case will push insurance premiums to uneconomic levels have asked for an urgent redraft of the critical clause.

Legal stickup

FLYPOSTING need no longer be a nefarious night-time activity. Leeds City Council claims to be the first city council to make it legal. It has entered into an agreement with a consortium of poster-sticking operators who will pay for special poster boards at £500 each.

Prize headline

THE Inns & Outs January prize for the dullest press release headline goes to Addleshaw Sons & Latham for: "Manchester Solicitor is joint author of new book". To be more informative: the lawyer is Jonathan Davey and the book is *Guide to the Commercial Agents' Regulations*, which he has co-authored with Fergus Randolph, a barrister with Brick Court Chambers.

Garden plot

IF YOUR local environment health inspectorate objects to your wish to bury your dead spouse in your back garden, fight on.

The Local Government Ombudsman has ruled that Wolverhampton council's decision not to allow a woman to bury her husband in the garden, on unspecified health grounds, was unreasonable.

Service award

A RARE award of the Member of the Victorian Order was made in the recent honours to a legal secretary. Pauline Moore was chief secretary to Sir Matthew Farrer, the Queen's solicitor, until he retired last month. Ms Moore, 58, worked for Sir Matthew for 29 years. One solicitor commented: "All of us who know her are deolighted."

Miss Moore, who is still with Farrers, said: "I was very honoured."

SCRIVENOR

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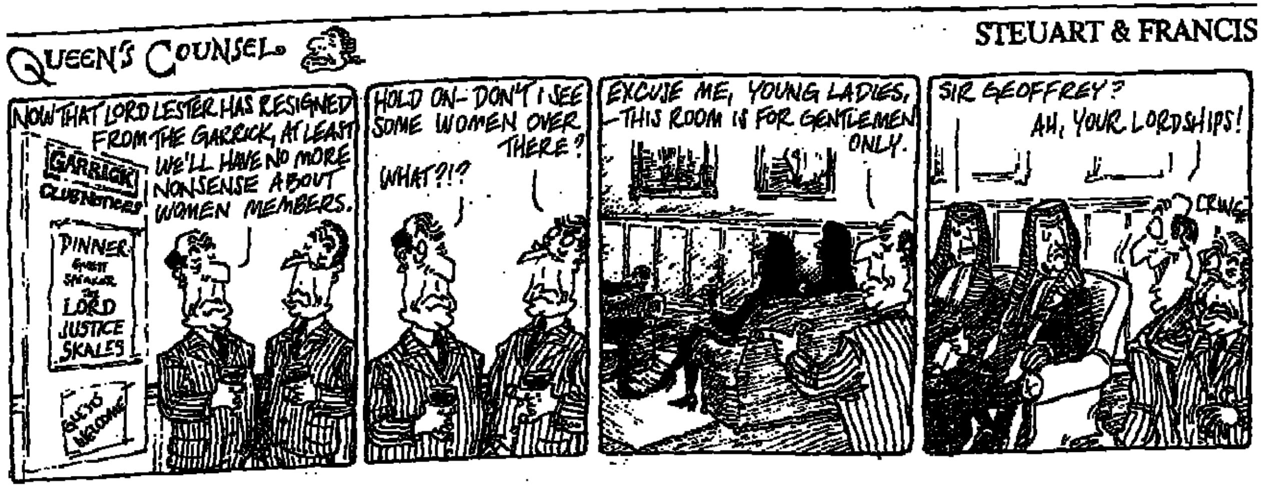
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GUESTS WELCOME
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WHAT?!?
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SIR GEOFFREY?
AH, YOUR LORDSHIPS!

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ANDRE CAMARA

Peter Goldsmith, QC: another lawyer describes him as "superb, absolutely tenacious — the sort who fights every corner"

Mr Megawatt Brain

Frances Gibb reports on the new, and youngest, chairman of the Bar Council

He's clever — a "megawatt brain", says one solicitor — and relatively young. Not much else is widely known about Peter Goldsmith, QC, this year's Bar chairman and at 44, the youngest holder of the post. But this Saturday, he takes the chair at the Bar Council meeting for the first time since being elected and explains his policies for 1995.

A series of measures has already been trailed: a new training scheme for chambers in management and client care (already launched), a Bar complaints system under which dissatisfied clients can obtain compensation, a scheme to validate universities to provide the Bar's one-year vocational training course, ending the monopoly of the Bar law school, and a pupillage clearing scheme, centralising applications from would-be barristers seeking a place in chambers.

All these stem from last year's fundamental review of the Bar set up by the former chairman, Robert Seabrook, QC, under Lord Alexander of Weedon; now it is Mr Goldsmith's responsibility to see that they materialise.

He sees his task as making the Bar more "modern, efficient, effective and competitive — crucial, if it is to survive". The heat is on from his rank and file as its members face tough competition in the criminal courts in the fight for work with solicitors. It is not Mr Goldsmith's own patch. He comes from the commercial Bar, where he is seen as one of the top and best-paid silks around. Julian Wilson, a litigation partner at Herbert Smith, says: "As a lawyer he is superb, absolutely tenacious — the sort who fights every corner for his client."

But if he is not from the ranks of the criminal Bar, Mr Goldsmith does not have the archetypal Bar background, either. He was brought up in the North, where he went to Quarry Bank High School in Liverpool, a decade after the Beatles, and went on to Cambridge where he took a double first in law, then took a master's degree at University College London, winning the Birkenhead Scholarship to Gray's Inn. Then he followed his brother to the Bar, coming first in his Bar finals in 1972. He was drawn into Bar Council politics in 1991, in a very short time becoming one of its chief policymakers. A hard-line conservative on trade-union issues, Mr Goldsmith fiercely opposes allowing the public to approach barristers direct without going through a solicitor, and he gets fired up on the current topic of the legal-aid fees structure for barristers and solicitors, arguing that the Bar is disadvantaged.

Mr Goldsmith wants the "playing field levelled", so that both groups are paid the same rates. He rejects the view that solicitors' overheads require them to be paid higher rates. "Why should the taxpaper have to pay more for somebody doing a job," he says. "If they can get someone else to do it at a lower price?"

He also cares about new entrants. He chaired a 1993 report on the future of young barristers and is acutely aware of the need to sort out the free-for-all scramble for places to train at the Bar and obtain pupillages, a system he describes as wasteful and inefficient.

His strength is intellectual rigour rather than communication; he is best known for his role in the landmark House of Lords' case on auditors' liability, *Caparo v. Dickman*, where he represented the successful accountants. One laywer says: "His style is not particularly friendly, and he flourishes best as an individual rather than a team player."

On the Bar Council, a colleague described him as "a policy wonk", consciously looking at every nook and cranny of policy. Away from work, Mr Goldsmith enjoys playing the piano, particularly jazz, and tennis and skiing. He and his wife of 20 years live in St John's Wood, central London, and have three sons and a daughter.

Mr Goldmsith's year will be one of consolidation. He wants the Bar to retain and build on its traditional role as a referral profession. But his view of the profession is one of a businessman; the Bar, he says, must improve the way it markets itself, communicates with clients and "delivers its services".

A single mother has organised a seminar on women in the law

Why do men still get the work?

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Margaret McCabe: "Until I had a child, I didn't realise how hard it is"

Ask Margaret McCabe whether there is discrimination at the Bar and she is unequivocal. "It is a huge problem," she says. "Discrimination is largely institutional, a habit that comes from school, from university and then from the Bar itself. There are many barristers, perhaps the majority, who think that everything the Bar is now doing to promote equal opportunities is a load of garbage. They say: 'We don't need all this equality stuff; it's nonsense.'"

But women barristers, she firmly believes, do face greater difficulties than men. She should know. Now 39 and senior in her field of general civil and commercial law, she is a relative rarity at the Bar — a working mother and a single parent. "Until I had a child, and was paying all the bills myself, I didn't realise just how hard it was. The Bar, for instance, is not geared to women taking maternity leave, although there is now a code of practice for chambers on this. I took three weeks off, but most women in chambers cannot take much longer because we are self-employed and other members of the set can be resentful if you do."

Securing the best briefs, particularly at the commercial bar, is also still a problem. "Women don't get the best commercial work. Clerks will always say that it's the preference of the client, but sometimes it's the clerks themselves. 'Without Prejudice', the recent survey on women at the Bar, found that the good, talented women do get on — they always have — but at a slower rate than comparable men, and I think that is true. Many women give up once they have a family and don't come back."

That is changing. More women are looking at the Bar as a long-term career. The Bar and the Law Society have drawn up equal opportunities codes for chambers and law firms, and the Bar Council now has its own equality officers. But there is a wide gulf, she says — shown most clearly in the recent Bar meeting over the failure of three Inns of Court to adopt the full anti-discrimination code — between those who believe action is needed and those who decry it.

To try to bridge that gap, she struck on the idea of a one-day conference on women lawyers and the way forward. "What really needed to be aired were the disadvantages that women face at certain key stages in their careers and whether or not the playing field can be levelled."

The idea instantly ignited. Both the Bar and Law Society were keen to help to organise what will be the first conference of its kind. The star-studded list of speakers will include Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice; Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mrs Justice Arden and Baroness Mallalieu, QC.

The challenge for the next five years, and this is what she hopes will emerge from the conference, is to get over the message that measures are needed. Equally important, she says, is the need not to be so over-zealous that discrimination is imagined where it is not there. "I feel quite strongly that one should not see discrimination where it doesn't exist; that is as bad as people who discriminate," she says. "And it damages the cause."

FRANCES GIBB

THE WOMAN LAWYER: BENEFIT OR BURDEN?

A ONE-DAY conference provocatively entitled The Woman Lawyer: Benefit or Burden?, will be held at the Law Society headquarters in London on April 8. Times readers are invited to attend this one-day conference, which is aimed at lawyers, managing partners, heads of chambers, personnel managers, clerks and administrators.

The morning session will open with a debate on sex discrimination laws, followed by a keynote address by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor. The afternoon will be split into sessions on Women at the Bar, Women Solicitors and A Changing Direction, each with a top speaker.

The conference will end with an open session moderated by Lord Justice Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice. Panellists include Barbara Mills, QC; Mrs Justice Hale, Kamlesh Bahl, chairman of the Equal Opportunties Cmmission; Henry Hodge, deputy vice-president of the Law Society, Peter Goldsmith, QC, the Bar chairman, and Cherie Booth.

The cost, including lunch and evening reception hosted by Mercury and Allied Dunbar, is £95 (plus VAT) if booked before February 17; and £125 (plus VAT) if booked afterwards. A limited number of student places are available at £65 (plus VAT) The conference also devotes two hours towards continuing professional development.

● *Forms and programmes from: Blair Communications and Marketing (0171-722 9731, fax 0171-586 0639).*

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Head of Department

Without doubt one of London's most accomplished firms of under twenty partners, our client originally built its reputation on outstanding expertise in specialist areas of law. Capitalising on this success, the firm has since focused on mainstream practice development, establishing a client-base which already includes household-name, blue-chip and multinational companies.

The next phase of the firm's business planning envisages the appointment of a further partner to become the new Head of The Commercial Property Department. This is obviously a key post which will suit candidates with both a proven track record of client development and the capacity to direct the growth of an enthusiastic team backed by an ambitious partnership. The possibilities for the appointee, in terms of both remuneration and self-fulfilment, will be considerable.

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CENTRAL LONDON

This assignment is being handled by Reuter Simkin, Recruitment Consultants. Please contact Philip Boynton LLB LLM on 071 405 4161 (fax 071 430 1140) to discuss the position. Alternatively, write to him at 5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 1DY.

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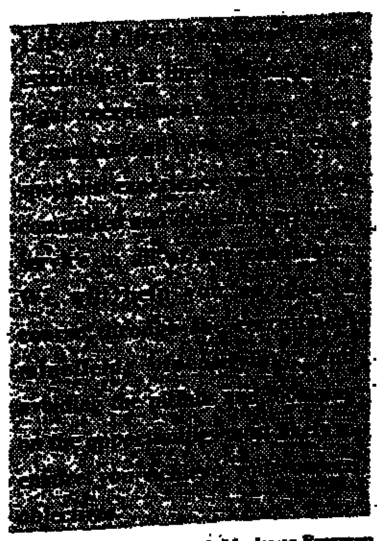

SELECTED NEW INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDE:

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INSURANCE/REINSURANCE - City £55,000 +
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Written applications, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be addressed to **Jonathan Brenner** at **Zarak Macrae Brenner,** Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax 071-247-5174. Internet e-mail **jonathan@zmb.co.uk**

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The applicant must be highly motivated, fit well into a dynamic team and be creative and flexible

Above Market Compensation

in approaching a wide range of problems. The focus of his/her assignments will be the firm's EU regulatory practice, and will include advice relating to competition law, aviation regulatory regimes, financial services regulation and trade matters. Strong candidates without EU regulatory experience will be considered, but such experience is highly desirable. The Europe-wide scope of the practice makes the position suitable for lawyers from any member state.

This is an exceptional opportunity for a highly talented lawyer to build a rewarding career in an international environment. Our client offers real career advancement prospects and an excellent salary.

Interested candidates should forward their CV to **Sarah Gore B.A, LL.B, Michael Page Legal, Page House, *39-41* Parker Street, London** WC2B 5LH. Telephone: 0171 831 2000 or Fax: 0171 831 6662.

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This assignment is being handled exclusively by Michael Page Legal. Interested candidates should forward their curriculum vitae to Susanne Vahl BSc, Solicitor at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London, WC2B 5LH, or telephone her on 071 831 2000.

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Alternatively, for opportunities in
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*For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **June Mesrié, Greg Abrahams** or **Stephen Rodney** on **0171-405 6062** (0181-340 7078 or 0171-266 5601 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. **Initial discussions can be held on a no names basis.***

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The Department of Law is a thriving law school committed to maintaining and developing its proven commitment to excellence in teaching and research across a broad range of legal disciplines. It achieved a rating of 4A in the 1992 Research Assessment Exercise and was assessed as excellent in the current Teaching Quality Assessment exercise. The persons appointed will share this commitment to excellence.

The appointment will be made from 1 September 1995. Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Geoffrey Morse, the Head of the Department, tel: 0115 951 5699.

Further details and application forms, returnable not later than 17 February 1995, from the Personnel Office, The University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0115 951 5781. **Please quote ref. SMM/004.**

The University of Nottingham

هكذا من الاصل

Ghanaian striker likely to make Premiership debut tonight

Yeboah set to widen Wilkinson's options

By Russell Kempson

ANTHONY YEBOAH'S protracted move from Eintracht Frankfurt to Leeds United was finally concluded yesterday, giving Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, the attacking option he has been searching for all season. However, that Wilkinson should make an immediate comparison between Yeboah and Eric Cantona, the former Elland Road favourite, appeared be stretching the imagination to its outer limits.

Yeboah, 28, the Ghana forward, joined from Frankfurt in a deal worth £3.4 million after overcoming a two-week wait for Government clearance and visa problems. He has signed a three-year contract, with club and player having agreed to a get-out clause after 12 months, and could make his debut in the home match against Queens Park Rangers in the FA Carling Premiership tonight, even though he admits to being "maybe 70 or 80 per cent" fit.

Cantona arrived at Leeds in February 1992 from Nimes in France and, despite a penchant for occasionally walking on the wilder side of football, he quickly achieved cult status among the Leeds supporters. He helped Leeds win the league title before a surprising move to Manchester United, for £1.2 million, after only a nine-month stay. Wilkinson sees similarities in his new purchase.

Alun Evans, the Football Association of Wales chief executive, is confident that Terry Venables will accept an invitation for the first match between England and Wales since 1982. "We'll be inviting England to play us at the Arms Park next spring." Evans said.

"Tony's pedigree is just as good as Eric's was when he came here," Wilkinson said. "And you could argue he comes in similar circumstances, although his track record is more consistent and predictable. He leaves a club where he started as an untried, foreign novice but finished as leading scorer and captain."

Yeboah has led the goalscoring in the *Bundesliga* for the past two seasons but has not played since the German league's mid-season break in November after falling out of favour with Jupp Heynkes, the Frankfurt manager. Yet Wilkinson, who has seen Yeboah play only on television, is ready to take a chance, with Leeds having scored only 29 goals in 23 Premiership matches this season and having failed to find the net in their last four.

"We've not scored enough goals in the last 18 months," he said. "We need somebody who can improve our goal difference by ten or 12 goals and if you've got a striker scoring a lot, there's a tendency for other players to score more as well. Tony is strong, left-sided and doesn't mind physical contact. He's popped some in from outside the box but most of his scoring is done where it matters, eight or ten yards from goal."

Yeboah is equally confident of winning over the hard-to-please Leeds followers, who have not given Brian Deane the most sympathetic of support since his £2.7 million move from Sheffield United in July 1993. "The fans will obviously expect more from a player who has cost £3 million," Yeboah said. "I'll have to give my best and what I'll need is a bit of luck — but any striker does. It's up to the coach how the team plays. I'm happy whether we have one striker or two."

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, is also looking to recruit from abroad to strengthen his side's push for the Endsleigh Insurance League first division title. He has taken Uwe Fuchs, a German striker, on trial with a view to a £500,000 signing.

Roy McFarland, the Derby County manager, prefers to buy closer to home and has agreed personal terms with Dean Yates, the Notts County central defender. The clubs cannot agree a fee and the decision will be made by an independent tribunal.

Leyton Orient were left in the lurch yesterday when Phil Wallace, an Essex businessman, withdrew his potential takeover bid of the struggling second division club.

Wallace first declared an interest in buying out the majority shareholding of Tony Wood, the chairman, just before Christmas but, after examining the club's books, he decided not to go ahead because the financial situation was worse than believed. Orient are believed to be £500,000 in debt and losing more than £10,000 a week.

☐ The Bell's Scottish League premier division match between Partick Thistle and Dundee United, due to have been played tonight, has been postponed because of a waterlogged pitch.

JUSTIN SLEE

Wilkinson shows off Yeboah, Leeds United's £3.4 million signing from Eintracht Frankfurt, at Elland Road yesterday

Fifa frowns on French fracas

By Our Sports Staff

ENGLISH football clubs may have been suffering from the effects of a Fifa-inspired crackdown on ill-discipline this season, with its resultant proliferation of cautions, sendings-off and suspensions, but the game in this country has been thankfully free of the kind of mass brawl that disfigured a match in France at the weekend.

The world governing body is likely to take a dim view of the events at the Geoffroy-Guichard stadium in Saint-Etienne, where a mid-table French league match against Bordeaux erupted into violence and resulted in Bordeaux imposing a fine of Fr 50,000 (about £6,000) on Didier Senac, their defender, who was seen to push an opponent to the ground and then kick at and stamp on his head.

Senac launched his furious assault on the Polish player, Piotr Swierczewski, early in the second half. The incident was captured by television cameras but was apparently not seen by the officials as a general brawl was taking place at the time.

Senac was not even spoken to, but Swierczewski was shown a red card for punching Zinedine Zidane, the Bordeaux midfield player, on the back of the head during the incident that sparked the violence. Franck Histilloles, the Bordeaux forward, was also later sent off for a crude foul in a match won 2-1 by St Etienne.

Senac, 36 and capped three times by France, admitted his offence later and said he expected French football authorities to punish him with a lengthy suspension. "My conduct was out of line," Senac said. "I know I risk a six-month ban for this."

He may not be disappointed. The league, having watched footage of the incidents, has summoned eight players to attend a disciplinary hearing. "I watched the video several times and I was astonished no other players were sent off," Jacques Riolacci, the disciplinary committee chairman, said yesterday.

Swierczewski was left nursing a broken nose, while Zidane suffered a partial loss of memory after the match and sported a large bruise. Yesterday, he was wearing a neck brace and was undergoing further medical tests.

Italy, once the home of most things cynical in football, is instead threatening to provide the most unlikely championship climax, thanks to the continued resurgence of AC Milan, the ailing champions of the early season.

Their 2-0 home win over Fiorentina, coupled with a surprise 3-0 defeat for Juventus, the leaders, in Cagliari, enabled Milan to reduce the deficit on Juventus to eight points. "We have not yet abdicated," Fabio Capello, the Milan coach, said after his side's fourth successive league victory had extended their unbeaten run to nine matches. "From here on you'll see a Milan fighting to get back into the championship race."

Juventus's defeat, their first in nine matches, was also good news for Parma, who consolidated second position with a 2-0 home win over Napoli, and Lazio, who stay third after a 1-0 away win over the bottom club, Brescia. Juventus can re-establish a three-point lead tomorrow, when they meet Torino in a derby match postponed from November.

A crushing defeat for Cameroon and a surprise draw for Burkina Faso were the highlights of a weekend of surprise results in the African Nations' Cup qualifying competition.

Zimbabwe, inspired by a hat-trick from Vitalis Takawira, their midfield player, beat Cameroon 4-1 on Sunday to leave the World Cup finalists struggling to qualify for the finals in South Africa next year. Burkina Faso, one of the rank outsiders, came from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 with Ivory Coast in Abidjan and strengthen their growing reputation.

☐ Fifa has described the murder of Rachid Haraigue, the president of the Algerian Football Federation, as an "attack on the fundamental principles of sport". Haraigue, 58, died after being shot several times as he sat behind the wheel of his car on Saturday. Islamic militants are suspected. Haraigue was the latest in a number of high-ranking sports officials to be assassinated during a three-year civil war in Algeria.

O'Brien strikes again as Parrott goes out

JOHN PARROTT left Newport yesterday convinced that lightning does strike twice in the same place (Phil Yates writes). Parrott was beaten 5-3 by Fergal O'Brien in the first round of the Regal Welsh Open snooker championship, the same player responsible for his elimination from the event last year. Although recent defeats did not bode well for O'Brien, he insisted: "I realised I'd got nothing to lose."

Though O'Brien was solid, with breaks of 80 and 62, his performance was overshadowed by that of John Higgins, the grand prix champion, who recovered from a 4-0 deficit to beat Dene O'Kane, of New Zealand, 5-4. James Wattana was taught a lesson about the perils of inadequate preparation by a 5-3 first-round defeat at the hands of Stephen Lee, of Trowbridge, the world No 40. Wattana, the third seed, flew into Heathrow only on Sunday morning after a month's holiday in his native Thailand.

Top-up for Boat Race

ROWING: Beefeater Gin, the sponsor of the Boat Race since 1987, announced yesterday that it would support the event for a further three years, from 1996 to 1998 (Mike Rosewell writes). Patrick Burke, the managing director of James Burrough Limited, the distiller of Beefeater Gin, spoke of "a genuine partnership" between Beefeater and the Boat Race as he announced the £1.35 million deal. Through Beefeater's marketing, the Boat Race has become a global event, seen in more than 160 countries, with an audience of 250 million. Since 1987, 27 Blues have represented their country at senior international level, including the Olympic gold medal-winners, Matthew Pinsent and Jonny Searle. The race this year, the 141st, will take place on Saturday, April 1.

Mickelson triumphs

GOLF: Phil Mickelson scored a final-round 68 to win the Northern Telecom Open in Tucson, Arizona, with a tournament record score of 269, 18 under par. Mickelson, 24, finished a stroke ahead of Jim Gallagher and Scott Simpson. Nick Faldo, playing in his first US PGA Tour event for five years, also had a 68 to finish on 278.

☐ The 1999 Walker Cup match is to be played at Nairn, near Inverness, it was announced yesterday. Nairn played host to the Amateur Championship last season.

Wachter triumphant

SKIING: Anita Wachter, of Austria, yesterday confirmed her return to form with a resounding victory in a World Cup giant slalom in Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy. It followed her triumph in a super-giant slalom in Haus, Austria, two weeks ago. Wachter, who won the corresponding race last year, was fastest in both legs, recording a total time of 2min 34.41sec. Vreni Schneider, of Switzerland, was second and Spela Pretnar, of Slovenia, was third. It was the eleventh World Cup win of Wachter's career.

Title-holders to return

ATHLETICS: Dionicio Cerón and Katrin Dorre will defend their NutraSweet London Marathon titles on April 2, it was announced yesterday (David Powell writes). Cerón, from Mexico, gave probably the finest performance by a male athlete in the event's history when he won in 2hr 8min 53sec last year. Strong winds stood between him and Steve Jones's course record of 2:08:16. Dorre, from Germany, became the first athlete to win three successive London Marathons.

Sharks get Cup cheer

BASKETBALL: Sheffield Sharks, the Budweiser League leaders, received the draw they wanted in the National Cup yesterday when they were paired with the weakest team left in the last four, Birmingham Bullets (Nicholas Harling writes). The other semi-final is between the Leopards and Thames Valley Tigers, the Cup runners-up last season.

SEMI-FINALS: Leopards v Thames Valley Tigers (first leg on Feb 8; second leg, Feb 15); Sheffield Sharks v Birmingham Bullets (first leg on date to be confirmed; second leg, Feb 17).

Morrison called up

HOCKEY: Tim Morrison, a full back from Old Loughtonians, has been called into the England party for the Indira Gandhi tournament in Delhi early next month as a replacement for Andy Humphrey, of Hull, who is serving a 60-day suspension after being sent off in the National League match against Slough on Sunday. Humphrey was the third England international this season to be shown a red card.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Arsenal v Southampton (7.45)
Leeds v Queens Park Rangers (7.45)
Liverpool v Everton (7.45)

Endsleigh Insurance League
Third division

Barnet v Carlisle (7.45)
Hereford v Chesterfield
Wigan v Preston

Auto Windscreens Shield
Northern section, quarter-final

Bury v Huddersfield

Anglo-Italian Cup
Semi-final, first leg

Notts County v Stoke (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division

Partick v Dundee Utd P

First division

Airdrie v Ayr

Second division

Dumbarton v Greenock Morton

Third division

Alloa v Forfar
Caley v Montrose

FA UMBRO TROPHY: First round: Bamber Bridge v Halifax (7.45), Boreham Wood v Grays, Colwyn Bay v Blyth Spartans (8.0), Farnborough v Dover (7.45), Gresley v Stafford (7.45), Ilkeston v Winsford (7.45), Kingstonian v Yeading, Leek v Durham City (7.45), Merthyr Tydfil v Slough (7.45), Newbury v Rothwell (7.45); Runcorn v Northwich (7.45), Rushden and Diamonds v Sudbury, St Albans v Kidderminster, Stevenage v Dagenham and Redbridge (7.45), Sutton United v Bath, Telford v Southport (7.45), Walton and Hersham v Kettering (7.45), Welling v Marlow (7.45), West Auckland v Macclesfield (at Macclesfield, 7.45), Witton v Guiseley (7.45), Woking v Chesham (7.45)

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Dulwich v Purfleet (7.45). Second division: Barstead v Aveley, Bracknell v Oxford City, *Hemel Hempstead v Croydon*, Ware v Egham. Third division: Canvey Island v Hertford, Horsham v Leighton. Carlsberg Cup: Third round: Hitchin v Harrow. Carlsberg Trophy: Third round: Southall v Witham.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division cup: Second round: Warrington v Caernarfon.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Buckingham Town v RC Warwick. Dr Martens Cup: Fourth round: Atherstone v Leek

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE. Premier division: Welwyn GC v Hatfield.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Corinthian v Tunbridge Wells, Thamesmead v Greenwich

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Carterton v Cinderford

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Elmore v Bristol Manor Farm

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere Swifts v Rocester, Knypersley Victoria v West Midlands Police

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: *Bemerton Heath v Wimborne*, Swanage and Herston v Bournemouth.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Oakwood v Arundel, Ringmer v Newhaven, Shoreham v Wick

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers v *Bradford Park Avenue*, Bootle v Prescot, Maine Road v Chadderton. League Cup: Third round: Burscough v Atherton Coll

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Cup: Second round: Glasshoughton Welfare v Eccleshill, Immingham v Pontefract Collieries.

BIRMINGHAM SENIOR CUP: Third round replay: Nuneaton v West Bromwich.

MANCHESTER FA PREMIER CUP: Second round: Oldham v Trafford, Radcliffe v Ashton Utd

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: *Portsmouth v Norwich (7.0)*, QPR v Oxford Utd (at Harrow Borough, 7.0).

PONTINS LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Everton v Wolverhampton, Derby v Manchester Utd. Second division: Bradford v York.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Quarter Final: Bangor City v Wrexham

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Third round, first leg: Holywell v Conwy

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round: Ards v Chimney Corner, Ballyclare Comrades v Glenavon, Dundela v Crumlin Utd, Glentoran v Coleraine, Linfield v Crusaders, Omagh Town v Ballymena Utd

OTHER MATCH: Dorchester v Brentford (7.45)

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-19 Trophy: Staffordshire v Shropshire (at Chase Town FC). FA Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Suffolk v Norfolk (at Thetford FC).

RUGBY UNION

Club matches

Cross Keys v Tredegar (7.0)
Exeter v Brixham (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
First division

Doncaster v Wigan

Silk Cut Cup
Third round

Keighley v Chorley

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Sunderland v Derby (8.0)

SNOOKER: Regal Welsh championship (Newport)

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday unless stated
Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FA CUP FOURTH ROUND

1 Portsmouth v Leicester 2

Not on coupons: Bristol C v *Everton (Sun)*, Burnley v Liverpool, Coventry v Norwich, Leeds v Oldham, Luton v Southampton, Manchester C v A Villa; Manchester Utd v Wrexham, Millwall v Chelsea; Newcastle v Swansea, *Nottingham F v C Palace*; QPR v W Ham; Sheff Wed v Wolves (Mon), Sunderland v Tottenham (Sun), Tranmere v Wimbledon (Sun), Watford v Swindon

FA PREMIERSHIP: Not on coupons, Blackburn v Ipswich

FIRST DIVISION: Not on coupons: Bolton v Sheff Utd, Grimsby v Notts Co; Middlesbrough v Barnsley

SECOND DIVISION

2 Blackpool v Plymouth 1
3 Bourn'm'th v Hudd'fld X
4 Brentford v Camb'ge U 1
5 Cardiff v Bradford 1
6 Crewe v Hull 1
7 Rotherham v Brighton 2
8 Shrewsbury v Oxford 2
9 Stockport v Leyton O 1
10 York v Wycombe 1

Not on coupons: Bristol Rovers v Birmingham

THIRD DIVISION

11 Chest'field v Barnet X
12 Colchester v Wigan 1
13 Darl'gton v Gillingham 1
14 Exeter v Preston 2
15 Hartlep'l v Scunth'pe X
16 Lincoln v Hereford 1
17 Mansfield v Rochdale 1
18 Torquay v Doncaster X

Not on coupons: Bury v *Walsall*, *Carlisle v Fulham*, Northampton v Scarborough

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

19 Altrincham v Runcorn 1
20 Dag'ham v Stalybridge 1
21 Gatesh'd v Macclesf'ld 1
22 Halifax v Telford X
23 Kettering v Farnboro 1
24 Kid'm'ster v Southp't 2
25 Merthyr v Northwich X
26 Stevenage v Stafford 1
27 Welling Bath X
28 Woking v Dover 1
29 Yeovil v Bromsgrove 2

BEAZER PREMIER

30 Burton v Gloucester 2
31 Camb'ge C v Solihull 1
32 Chelmsford v Crawley 1
33 Chelt'ham v Rushden 1
34 Halesowen v Atherst'n 1
35 Hastings v Trowbr'ge X
36 Hednesford v Gresley 1
37 Leek v Dorchester X
38 Sitt'gb'rne v Corby 1
39 Sudbury v Gravesend 2

DIADORA PREMIER

40 Bishop's S v Yeading X
41 Dulwich v Harrow 2
42 Enfield v Molesey 1
43 Hayes v Kingstonian 1
44 Hitchin v Aylesbury 2
45 St Albans v Marlow 1
46 Slough v Chesham 1
47 Sutton v Hendon X
48 Walton & H v Grays 2

SCOTTISH CUP THIRD ROUND

49 Aberdeen v Stranraer 1
50 Celtic v St Mirren 1
51 Clydebank v Hearts 2
52 East Fife v Ross X
53 Falkirk v Motherwell 1
54 Hamilton v Rangers 2
55 Meadowb'k v Berwick 1
56 Raith v Ayr 1
57 S Johnst'n v Sten'muir 1
58 Stirling v Airdrie 2

Not on coupons: Cove v Dunfermline, Dundee v Partick, Dundee Utd v Clyde, Huntly v Burntisland Shipyard, Kilmarnock v Morton; Montrose v Hibernian

SCOTTISH LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

Not on coupons. Alloa v East Stirling, Arbroath v Forfar

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Bournemouth, Chesterfield, Hartlepool, Torquay, Halifax, Merthyr, Welling, Hastings, Leek, Bishop's Stortford, Sutton, East Fife

BEST DRAWS: Bournemouth, Hartlepool, Merthyr, Welling, Sutton

AWAYS: Leicester, Preston, Bromsgrove, Gloucester, Gravesend.

HOMES: Blackpool, Crewe, York, Colchester, Lincoln, Altrincham, Kettering, Stevenage, Woking, Chelmsford, Enfield, Falkirk,

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Crewe, Colchester, Lincoln, Kettering, Falkirk. Aways: Leicester, Preston, Bromsgrove. Draws: Bournemouth, Hartlepool, Welling.

☐ Vince Wright

Morrison's hat-trick lifts Hawks

AT LAST, Humberside Hawks have beaten Sheffield Steelers (Norman de Mesquita writes). In nine previous ice hockey league and cup meetings, the best they could achieve was a draw: once last season and twice this. On Sunday, however, they broke thier duck, thanks largely to Scott Morrison, who scored three goals and assisted on two in their 6-5 win.

The Hawks dominated the second period, led 6-2 at the end of it and sat back on defence in the third to hold on for the win. Having only just salvaged a draw against Cardiff Devils the previous evening, it was not a good weekend for Sheffield, who saw Nottingham Panthers move three points ahead in the premier division with wins over Durham Wasps and Fife Flyers.

Ross Lambert was Nottingham's outstanding player with six goals in the two games. Ivan Matulik, however, managed six in one game, Edinburgh Racers' 16-10 win over Whitley.

Stephen Cooper returned for Cardiff earlier than anticipated after an operation and scored three goals in his first two games, against Sheffield and an 11-5 win over Milton Keynes. With him, the Devils may emerge as the main threat to the Panthers.

There was a remarkable family double in Dumfries Vikings' 8-6 win over Lee Valley Lions. Two goals were scored by Valeri Sidorov and three by his son Ivan, 15.

ATHLETICS

CRYSTAL PALACE: South of England indoor championships: Men: 60m: D Joyce (Bedford) 6.9sec. 60m hurdles: M Lambeth (Haringey) 8sec. Pentathlon: P Field (Metropolitan Police) 3840pts. High jump: M Roach (Old Gaytonians) 2m. Long jump: J Munroe (Thames Valley) 7.46m (championship record). Triple jump: J Herbert (Haringey) 16.28m (championship record). Shot: J Mason (unattached) 16.08m. Women: 60m: U Ekpo (Bromley) 7.6sec. 60m hurdles: Ekpo 8.6. Pentathlon: D Bennett (Epsom & Ewell) 3564pts (Haringey). High jump: J Brown (Ashford) 1.70m. Long jump: Y Idowu (Essex) 6.35m. Triple jump: A Hansen (Essex) 13.94m (championship record). Shot: J Oakes (Croydon) 17.62m (championship record).

BADMINTON

BARNSLEY: Inter-county championship: First division: Yorkshire 14 Warwickshire 1.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Saturday: Atlanta 89 Boston 84; Philadelphia 117 *LA Lakers 113*; *Seattle 117 Dallas 91*, Milwaukee 120 Detroit 100; Cleveland 101 Denver 100. Sacramento 92 LA Clippers 86. Sunday: Chicago 100 Houston 81; Washington 109 New Jersey 103; Indiana 98 San Antonio 93. Minnesota 100 Charlotte 83; Phoenix 111 Orlando 110; New York 104 *Miami 95*, Portland 103 Sacramento 87.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	32	8	.800	—
New York	24	13	.649	6½
Boston	15	24	.385	16½
New Jersey	15	26	.366	17½
Miami	12	26	.316	19
Philadelphia	12	26	.316	19
Washington	10	27	.270	20½
Central division				
Charlotte	24	14	.632	—
Cleveland	24	14	.632	—
Indiana	23	15	.605	1
Chicago	20	19	.513	4½
Atlanta	17	22	.436	7½
Milwaukee	15	23	.395	9
Detroit	11	25	.306	12
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest division				
Utah	28	10	.737	—
Houston	23	14	.622	4½
San Antonio	22	14	.611	5
Denver	18	20	.474	10
Dallas	16	20	.444	11
Minnesota	9	28	.237	19
Pacific division				
Phoenix	30	8	.789	—
Seattle	27	9	.750	2
LA Lakers	23	13	.639	6
Sacramento	22	16	.579	8
Portland	20	17	.541	9½
Golden State	11	24	.314	17½
LA Clippers	6	33	.154	24½

NATIONAL CUP: Quarter-final: Leicester 79 (Waldron 35, Tresvant 13) Birmingham 98 (Samuels 29, Dorsey 21, Baker 18).

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sunday: Doncaster 114 (*Fitz 30, Modzalewski 22, Joseph 18*) Chester 83 (Gardner 28, Johnson 22); Sheffield 90 (Cauthorn 22, Huggins 18) Leopards 71 (Youngblood 23)

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Brisbane: Western Australia 214 (G Rowell 4-61) and 234; Queensland 204 (J Angel 4-70) and 122. Western Australia won by 122 runs. Hobart: New South Wales 487-8dec and 298-2dec (Mark Waugh 132); Tasmania 446-6 dec and 242 (R Ponting 134, G McGrath 5-60). New South Wales won by 97 runs. Positions: 1, Western Australia played 7, 21.7pts; South Australia 5, 20; 3, Queensland 6, 20; 4, Victoria 5, 17.1; 5, NSW 6, 14; Tasmania 7, 8.

ST KITTS: West Indies Youth 176 and 10-0. England Under-19 195.

FOOTBALL

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second round draw: Farnborough Town or Dover Athletic v Rushden and Diamonds or Sudbury Town, Gretna or Halesowen Town v Witton Albion or Guiseley; Sutton Utd or Bath City v Marine, Runcorn or Northwich Victoria v Leek Town or Durham City; Billingham Synthonia or Ashton United v West Auckland Town or Macclesfield; Hednesford Town or Altrincham v VS Rugby or Aylesbury United; Colwyn Bay or Blyth Spartans v Enfield; Gresley Rovers or Stafford Rangers v Morecambe; Merthyr Tydfil or Slough Town v Bamber Bridge or Halifax Town; Bishop Auckland or Gateshead v Newbury Town or Rothwell Town; Stalybridge Celtic or Hyde United v Telford Utd or Southport; Woking or Chesham Utd v Molesey or Cheltenham Town; Welling United or Marlow v Ilkeston Town or Winsford United; Yeovil Town v Stevenage Borough or Dag and Redbridge; Kingstonian or Yeading v St Albans City or Kidderminster Harriers; Boreham Wood or Grays Ath v Walton and Hersham or *Kettering Town. Ties to be played on* Saturday, February 11.

GOLF

TUCSON, Arizona: Men's tournament (US unless stated): 269: P Mickelson 65, 66, 70, 68. 270: S Simpson 69, 65, 68, 68; J Gallagher 69, 64, 69, 68. 271: B Ogle (Aus) 68, 65, 68, 70. 272: J Furyk 68, 69, 67, 67. 274: W Austin 68, 69, 70, 67; J Ozaki (Japan) 68, 67, 70, 69; B Tway 70, 65, 69, 70; D Duval 67, 70, 67, 70; T Kite 71, 66, 67, 70; *D Pooley 71, 66, 65, 72.* European scores: 278: N Faldo (GB) 70, 70, 70, 68. 287: J Parnevik (Swe) 71, 69, 74, 73.

ORLANDO: US LPGA tournament: Final scores (US unless stated): 211: P Bradley 71, 72, 68. 212: B Daniel 71, 70, 71. 213: V Skinner 71, 72, 70. 214: L Davies (GB) 73, 69, 72. *215: J Pitcock 74, 71, 70.* 216: M McGeorge 72, 70, 74. 217: M Mallon 70, 74, 73; H Alfredsson 71, 72, 74. Other British score: 220: C Matthew 75, 74, 71.

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE
First division (corrected)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Surbiton	8	6	2	1	15	7	17
Cannock	6	5	1	0	23	4	16
O Loughtonians	6	5	1	0	16	7	16
Teddington	6	5	0	1	18	9	15
Southgate	7	4	2	1	19	10	14
E Grinstead	7	4	1	2	17	10	13
Reading	8	4	1	3	13	12	13
Hounslow	6	3	2	1	13	8	11
Indian Gym	9	3	2	4	14	15	11
Havant	6	2	2	[illegible]	9	11	8
Guildford	6	2	1	3	11	11	7
Canterbury	8	1	4	3	14	17	7
Hull	7	2	1	4	7	14	7
Stourport	7	1	2	4	9	15	5
Trojans	8	1	2	5	9	21	5
Bournville	8	1	2	5	10	23	5
Firebrands	6	0	1	5	4	13	3
Slough	7	0	2	5	7	21	2

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 4 Philadelphia 1; Calgary 4 Detroit 1; Hartford 2 New Jersey 2 (OT); New York Islanders 3 *Ottawa 3 (OT); Buffalo 5 Tampa Bay 2;* Edmonton 4 Los Angeles 3.

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell 5 Basingstoke 8; Cardiff 11 Milton Keynes 5; Durham 9 Peterborough 3; Humberside 6 Sheffield 5; Nottingham 10 Fife 4; Whitley Bay 10 Edinburgh 16. First *division: Blackburn 5 Trafford 11;* Guildford 1 Telford 2; Lee Valley 6 Dumfries 8; Paisley 9 Medway 4; Solihull 7 Swindon 5.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Fourth round draw: Carlisle v Widnes; Warrington v Castleford; Leeds v Bradford; Beverley v Batley; Huddersfield v Halifax; Whitehaven v Wakefield; Swinton v Leigh; Wigan v St Helens; Workington v Hull; Keighley or Chorley v Dewsbury or Kells; Doncaster v Sheffield; Ryedale-York v Rochdale; Hunslet v Salford; Featherstone v Barrow; Oldham v Bramley; London v Hull KR or Thornhill. Ties to be played February 11/12.

SNOOKER

NEWPORT: *Welsh Open: First round* (England unless stated) J Cundy bt T Knowles (Eng) 5-1; D Harold bt T Chappel (Wales) 5-4; J Ferguson bt D Fowler 5-0; M Price bt M Couch 5-1; S Davis bt F Carney 5-0; J Swail (N Ire) bt J Wych (Can) 5-2.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH: European League (England unless stated): M Flowerdew bt A Robidoux (Can) 5-2; D Morgan (Wales) bt A Hicks 5-2; P Ebdon bt T Shaw 5-2; J Swail (NIre) bt J Wych (Can) 5-2; M Judge (Ire) bt Doherty 5-4; S Hendry bt O'Sullivan 7-1; S Murphy (Ire) bt D Reynolds 5-2.

SWIMMING

GLOUCESTER: British Grand Prix: Men: 100m freestyle: 1, I Edmond (Reading) 52.84sec; 2, N Williams (Loughborough) 53.06; 3, S Mavin (Loughborough) 53.11. 400m freestyle: 1, I Wilson (Leeds) 3:58.36; 2, A Woods (Norwich) 4:05.19; 3, M Watkins (Torfaen) 4:06.24. 100m backstroke: 1, C Jones (Cardiff) 57.78; 2, B Kwok (Coventry) 59.38; 3, B Wraymand (Coventry) 1:00.23. 50m breaststroke: 1, Edmond 29.82; 2, J Patrick (Leeds) 30.02; 3, P Methuish (Cardiff) 30.28. 200m medley: 1, Jones 2:06.03; 2, J Harris (Beckenham) 2:06.54; 3, G Morgan (Swansea) 2:10.75. Women: 100m freestyle: 1, Foster 58.28; 2, M Atkinson ([illegible]) 58.40; 3, V Hale (Swansea) 59.48. 400m freestyle: 1, S Hardcastle (Bracknell) 4:12.24; 2, J Deakins (Coventry) 4:23.35; 3, E Mortensen (Leeds) 4:25.84. 200m breaststroke: 1, L Rogers (Millfield) 2:33.49; 2, J King (Tigersharks) 2:37.77; 3, K Legg (Bournemouth) 2:42.38. 100m butterfly: 1, S O'Herlihy (Ireland) 1:04.87; 2, C Niblett (Dover Lifeguards) 1:05.80; 3, K Flook (Reading) 1:06.37. 50m backstroke: 1, P Purser (Bristol) 30.77sec; 2, D Sucking (Beckenham) 31.35; 3, J Solomon (Loughborough) 31.38.

TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Australian Open: Men's singles: Fourth round: Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt T Martin (US) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2; J Eltingh (Holl) bt P McEnroe (US) 6-4, 6-4, 6-7, 5-7, 6-4; A Krickstein (US) bt S Edberg (Swe) 6-7, 5-7, 6-4, 7-6, 6-4; A Agassi (US) bt P Rafter (Aus) 6-3 6-4 6-0.

Men's doubles: Third round: K Ullyett (SA) and L Paes (India) bt N Broad (GB) and G Van Emburgh (US) 7-6, 7-6; R Leach (US) and S Melville (US) bt S Draper and P Tramacchi (Aus) 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; M Knowles (Bah) and D Nestor (Can) bt T Woodbridge and M Woodforde (Aus), 6-3, 6-4.

Women's singles: Fourth round: M Werdel Witmeyer (US) bt B Paulus (Austria) 6-2, 6-3; N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt M Fernandez (US) 6-4, 7-6; A Sánchez-Vicario (Sp) bt K Habsudova (Slovakia) 7-5, 6-0; A Gavaldon (Mex) bt J Novotna (Cz Rep) 7-5, 6-0.

Women's doubles: Third round: G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Bela) bt E Reinach (SA) and I Spirlea (Rom) 6-2, 6-3; L McNeil (US) and H Sukova (Cz Rep) bt M Endo and N Sawamatsu (Japan) 6-2, 6-4; K Boogert and N Muns-Jagerman (Holl) bt M McGrath (US) and R Stubbs (Aus), 6-1, 3-0 ret.

Mixed doubles: First round: D Adams (SA) and L Raymond (US) bt L Jensen (US) and B Schultz (Holl), 6-7, 6-4, 8-6; G Connell (Can) and L Davenport (US) bt M Oosting and K Boogert (Holl) 6-1, 6-4. Second round: F Montana (US) and L Harvey-Wild (US) bt D Cahill and N Bradtke (Aus), 6-4, 7-5; C Suk (Cz Rep) and G Fernandez (US) bt J-L De Jager (SA) and J Hetherington (Can) 6-2, 6-3; J Sánchez (Sp) and L McNeil (US) bt S Davis (US) and R Stubbs (Aus) 6-3, 7-5.

YACHTING

AMERICA'S CUP: Louis Vuitton challenge trials: Positions after first round-robin series: 1, Team New Zealand (R Coutts) 6 wins: 0 defeats; 2, TAG Heuer Challenge (C Dickson, NZ) 5:1; 3, Nippon '94 (M Namba, Japan) 4:2; 4, oneAustralia (J Bertrand) 3:3; 5, Sydney '95 (S Fischer, Aus) 2:4; 6, France 2 (M Pajot) 1:5; 7, Rioja de España (P Campos, Sp) 0:6. Citizen Cup defence trials: Positions after first round-robin series: 1, Young America (K Mahaney) 5:1; 2, Stars & Stripes (D Conner) 3:3.

BOC CHALLENGE (second leg from Cape Town to Sydney). Class one: 1, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 24 days 23hr 40min; 2, Vendee Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 300 miles 27:10:37; 3, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 28:02:12; 4, Coyote (D Scully, US) 28:08:04; 5, Novell South Africa (J Provoyeur, SA) 28:20:06; 6, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US) 55:[illegible]. Class two: 1, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 28:02:[illegible]; 2, True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 28:04:28; 3, Newcastle Australia (A Nebbia, Aus) 34:04:08; 4, Jimroda II (N Vaughan, GB) 34:22:40; 5, Cornwall (R Davies, GB) 36:06:55; 6, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB) 45:10:45; 7, Shuten-Dohji II (M Sato, Japan) 52:18:21; 8, Henry Hornblower (R Mitchell, GB) 61:05:11.

هكذا من الاهالي

Dramatic drop in Champion Hurdle entry to be investigated

Lack of top hurdlers causes concern

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

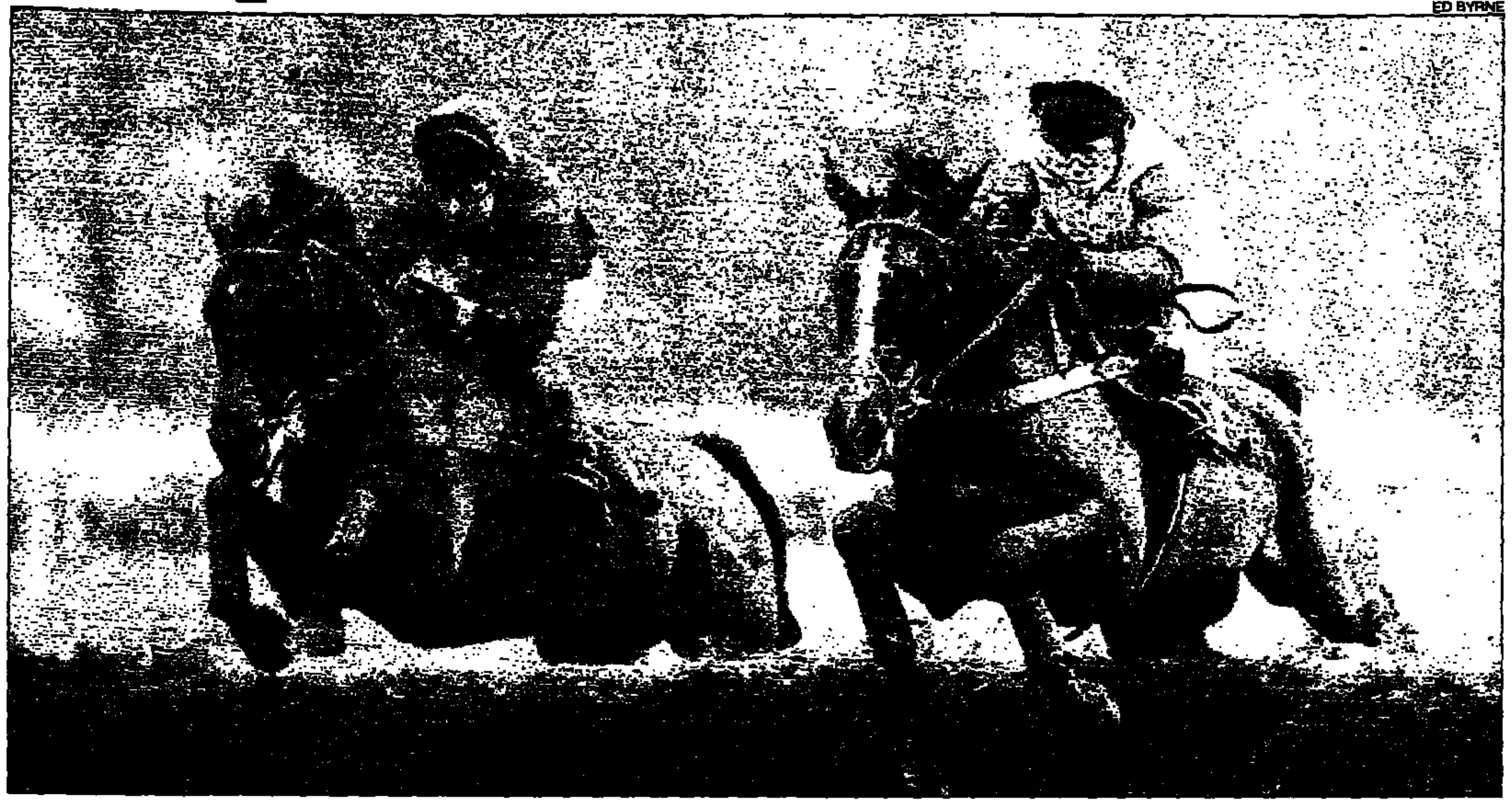
AN ALARMING drop in the number of entries for this year's Smurfit Champion Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival is to be investigated by the British Horseracing Board (BHB) next month.

Only 24 horses have been entered for the £160,000-added two-mile race compared to 42 last year and an average over the past decade of 41.5.

The Bonusprint Stayers' Hurdle, which used to attract upwards of 70 horses in the mid 1980s, has also been poorly supported with only 39 potential runners compared to 52 last year and a ten-year average of 54.4.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: BALLYRANTER
(2.45 Lingfield Park)
Next best: Good So Fa
(2.15 Lingfield Park)


ED BYRNE

Relkeel, right, heads the Champion Hurdle betting after comfortably fending off Flakey Dove at Haydock on Saturday

The sudden slump in numbers of top hurdlers comes only a month after the BHB pruned 78 steeplechases from the 1995 jumping programme due to the shortage of runners, and will fuel growing concerns about the future health of National Hunt racing in Britain.

A 42 per cent reduction in Champion Hurdle entries this year follows a season in which most of the recognised races for top two-mile hurdlers have attracted only a handful of runners. With a big question mark hanging over the participation of at least six of the Cheltenham entries, the field that lines up for the hurdlers' crown on March 14 looks sure to be the smallest for years.

John Smee, the BHB's controller of race programmes, said yesterday: "We have had a particularly bad year with runners in races like the Gerry Feilden, the Fighting Fifth, the Christmas Hurdle and the New Year's Day Hurdle so the Jump Pattern committee is going to consider the two-mile race category in a month's time.

"Even big handicaps like the William Hill Handicap at Sandown have not filled and we have got to investigate to see what can be done. One of the problems was the blip in buying horses three or four years ago but that is not the answer to the whole problem."

The number of National Hunt horses in training has fallen by more than 20 per cent from 4,901 in 1989 to 3,831 at the end of last year, but the most dramatic drop came at the height of the recession, between the end of 1991 and 1992, when numbers plunged from 4,617 to 3,898. The 13 per cent fall inside one year is now feeding its way through into championship race entries.

Toby Balding, who won the Champion Hurdle with Morley Street in 1991 and Beech Road two years earlier, confirmed: "Two or three years ago you could not sell a jumper to anyone. The market is a little bit more buoyant now, but only a bit."

Balding, chairman of the National Hunt committee on the National Trainers' Federation, added: "I think there is a dearth of decent horses around and the day has gone when people say to their trainer they want a runner at Cheltenham no matter what the cost.

"We are physically short of horses because it is expensive and the prize-money is ordinary, especially when compared to all-weather Flat racing. It is meant to be the lowest level of Flat racing, yet the runners are getting more prize-money than jumps horses were running for at Kempton on Saturday, a grade one track covered by television."

Peter McNeile, Cheltenham racecourse's commercial manager, yesterday pointed to the twin trends of a reduction in "joke" entries, involving horses with no chance of winning, and a fall in the number of horses of champion status.

The full Champion Hurdle entry with William Hill's odds is: 4-1 Relkeel, 5-1 Large Action, 6-1 Danoli, 8-1 Montelado, Fortune And Fame, 12-1 Atours, 14-1 Flakey Dove, Mysilv, 16-1 Vintage Crop, 20-1 Absalom's Lady, Oh So Risky, 25-1 Jazilah, Trying Again, 33-1 Alderbrook, Bold Boss, Aries Girl, Spinning, 40-1 Dreams End, Kadastrof, Land Afar, 50-1 Destriero, Corrouge, Granville Again, Mole Board.

☐ The turf meeting scheduled for Lingfield Park tomorrow has been lost to waterlogging. It is the 31st casualty of the National Hunt season. "There was no way it was going to dry in time," Geoff Stickels, the clerk of the course, said.

☐ Country Lad, winner of the inaugural Michael Seely Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase, died yesterday after an attack of colic.

DOWNWARD TRACK OF THE CHELTENHAM ENTRIES

CHAMPION HURDLE	Entries	Runners	STAYERS' HURDLE	Entries	Runners
1995	24	?	1995	39	?
1994	42	15	1994	52	14
1993	50	18	1993	40	12
1992	37	16	1992	56	14
1991	38	24	1991	52	15
1990	37	19	1990	59	22
1989	43	16	1989	46	21
1988	45	24	1988	54	19
1987	38	21	1987	55	19
1986	48	28	1986	59	21
1985	37	17	1985	71	28

French random dope testing to be monitored

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

BRITISH trainers will soon have to contend with a policy of random dope testing if the Jockey Club's study of a pilot scheme in France meets with the approval of the stewards at Portman Square.

Details of the initiative to test horses in trainers' stables were last week outlined to Christopher Foster, the Jockey Club's representative on the European Horserace Scientific Liaison Committee. And the Jockey Club, along with the Irish Turf Club, has pledged to assess the project for its possible inclusion within the rules of racing.

"Christopher Foster will probably invite members of the industry to help him keep an eye on the scheme's progress," said David Pipe, the Jockey Club's director of public relations. "A working group will be established if there appear grounds for its introduction in Britain, although there are no proposals on the table at this stage."

The French project will be introduced next month. Horses found in breach of the code face a series of harsh penalties, particularly for the detection of anabolic steroids. The minimum suspension lasts for six months while bad cases can attract lifetime bans.

The use of such steroids for medicinal or therapeutic purposes has been strictly outlawed in France and the post-race prohibited substance list is to be applied to horses in training. This effectively means that substances like Lasix, banned on the racecourse but used in training on horses prone to breaking blood vessels, cannot be used.

Any medication containing prohibited substances can only be administered under veterinary presciption. "There is not a great need for widespread random testing," said Dr Roland Devolz, veterinarian at the Société d'Encouragement (French Jockey Club).

"The collecting procedures will be exactly the same as those used in post-race testing," he continued. "Unless a trainer has veterinary documents to explain the presence of any prohibited substance, he will be treated as though his horse has failed a post-race test."

Dr Devolz said rapid advances in the development of "designer" drugs would make their post-race detection a difficult process within ten years. And he suggested the policy of testing for anabolic steroids would almost certainly be extended "in three or four years" to include young stock reared for their possible sale at public auctions.

The scheme was yesterday dismissed as impractical by Peter Cundell, president of the National Trainers' Federation. "Several horses have to be trained on medication, and the lack of sophistication of many equine drugs means they contain prohibited substances."

Salt Lake looms large in race for 2002 Games

David Miller on how the IOC has slimmed down its selection process for the Winter Olympics in 2002

For the past ten years, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has unnecessarily subjected itself to seriously-damaging bad publicity, through its election system for Olympic host cities. At last, some rationalisation is taking place in Lausanne, the IOC headquarters, yesterday and today in the campaign to host the Winter Games of 2002.

The elections of Barcelona and Albertville for 1992, Lillehammer (1994), Atlanta (1996), Nagano (1998) and Sydney (2000) were all tarnished by rampant overspending by more than 30 candidate cities, in the attempt to win the vote of the 90 or so IOC members. Both the cities and some members were widely accused of the corrupt offer or acceptance of incentives. Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, vainly attempted to close the stable door with a malevolent horse already galloping around five continents.

For the summer Games of 1996 and 2000, an evaluation commission, delegated to inspect and analyse all bids, was largely and stupidly ignored. The IOC members went their own way, getting the decision right, though only by two votes, with Sydney. Now, all is different.

The evaluation commission, under the chairmanship of Dr Thomas Bach (Germany), and including two representatives each from the IOC, international sports federations and national Olympic committees, plus one athlete and four specialist consultants, has produced a searching and definitive analysis of nine candidates for 2002: Graz (Austria), Jaca (Spain), Ostersund (Sweden), Poprad-Tatry (Slovakia), Quebec (Canada), Salt Lake City (United States), Sion (Switzerland), Sochi (Russia) and Tarvisio (joint Slovenia, Austria, Italy).

Yesterday, a selection committee chaired by Dr Un Yong Kim, an IOC vice-president, heard representations from the nine candidates. Today, they will reduce these to a short list of four, with the final decision to be taken by all IOC members at the session in Budapest in June.

So comprehensive and exact is the evaluation commission's 192-page report — reinforced by scrutiny from an international banker — that frankly the selection committee should have had no work to do. The report emphatically demonstrates that the best two candidates are Salt Lake City and Ostersund: no surprise, since they were in a close contest with the Japanese of Nagano for 1998. The next two, clearly superior to the remaining five, are Quebec and Sion.

Should the selection committee include today any city other than those four, it would not be a surprise but an absurd waste of time and effort on evaluation, and would justify continued criticism of the IOC's handling of its own administrative affairs.

Most of those who have studied the report would go even further, and say that Salt Lake is so self-evidently the outright leader, in most of the 23 aspects of each bid that were inspected, that the Utah city might as well be nominated now, to save the unnecessary further expenditure by four candidates in entertaining visiting IOC members during the next four months.

'Most who studied the report say Salt Lake is the outright leader'

That, of course, would be non-sporting, and contrary to the concept of open competition encouraged by Samaranch in preference to the decision being taken, as in most international federations, by the executive. Were the executive board selecting, Salt Lake, more or less faultless in 18 of the 23 facets related to staging the Games, would already have the vote.

It is thought proper, however, that Ostersund, another delightful small-town bid like Lillehammer's, should have the chance to win the IOC's sympathy vote, Sweden having repeatedly bid but never staged a winter Games.

Ostersund cannot quite match Salt Lake's combination of ideal new arenas for snow and ice events, compact circumference of venues linked by expressways, meteorological conditions and financial potential. The rival bid committees, respectively led by Tom Welch and Christer Persson, have equal charm. The countdown to June will, though different and less publicised, be as intriguing as the contest between Sydney and Peking. And a lot less expensive.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.15 Maid Welcome	2.45 Ballyranter
1.45 Elementary	3.15 One For Jeannie
2.15 Good So Fa	3.45 ARC BRIGHT (nap)
	4.15 Darakah

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.45 **ARC BRIGHT.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.15 **GOOD SO FA** (nap).

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

1.15 HUNGERFORD APPRENTICES HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,701: 7f) (11 runners)

101	(3)	00113-4	MAID WELCOME 10 (V,CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-9-13	Amanda Sanders (5)	97
102	(1)	030000-	CLARET BUMBLE 227 (F,G) (J Pyne) A Hannans (Fr) 4-9-8	R Painter (3)	–
103	(7)	22322-2	SHARP IMP 15 (B,D,BF,F) (Miss V Markowiak) R Flower 6-9-1	J D Smith (3)	98
104	(6)	332400-	BONNY MELODY 29 (D,G) (Mrs E Dawson) P Evans 4-8-13	J Stack	97
105	(10)	044345-	OUR SHADEE 38 (V,CD,F) (K Ivory) K Ivory 5-8-12	C Scally (5)	97
106	(2)	00552-0	EUROPHARM LASSIE 17 (R Higson) G L Moore 4-8-11	Caroline Hovingtons (7)	88
107	(5)	3035-33	JOINT EFFORT 7 (R Dalton) A Moore 4-8-10	S Sanders	●
108	(11)	4005-10	MYJINKA 14 (B,C,G) (Miss P Westbrook) J O'Donoghue 5-8-3	Iona Wands (5)	92
109	(4)	0064/0-0	KELLY'S KITE 12 (F,G) (H Collingridge) H Collingridge 7-7-8	C Hawksley (3)	–
110	(9)	0000-00	CRAFTY CRICKETER 17 (Yew Tree Yeomanry) R Voorspuy 4-7-8	C Adamson (5)	–
111	(8)	060/00-4	WHATONE BELL 17 (L Wadge) P Hayward 5-7-7	D Wright	–

Long handicap: Whatone Bell 7-3

BETTING: 3-1 Maid Welcome, 4-1 Sharp Imp, 5-1 Joint Effort, 6-1 Our Shadee, 7-1 Claret Bumble, 8-1 Myjinka, 10-1 Bonny Melody, 12-1 Europharm Lassie, 14-1 others.

1994: APOLLO RED 5-9-2 N Adams (20-1) A Moore 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

MAID WELCOME about 1¼l 4th of 16 to Red Valerian in handicap over course and distance. CLARET BUMBLE best recent effort 2nd of 15 to Acrymone in claimer at Longchamp (1m, soft) penultimate start. SHARP IMP head 2nd of 6 to Digpast in handicap over course and distance penultimate start with MAID WELCOME ½l 3rd and MYJINKA (1lb better off) 4½l 5th. OUR SHADEE 9l 5th of 11 to Secret Aly in handicap over course and distance. JOINT EFFORT 5¾l 3rd of 6 to Hoist in maiden here (AW, 6f). MYJINKA beat Pal Poindestres 1¼l in 11-runner handicap here (AW, 6f) on penultimate start with EUROPHARM LASSIE (12lb better off) 10¾l 9th and CRAFTY CRICKETER (12lb better off) 3l 10th.
Selection: MAID WELCOME (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . . B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

1.45 WESTMINSTER CLAIMING STAKES (£2,967: 1m 4f) (7 runners)

201	(5)	31014-1	ELEMENTARY 7 (C,D,F,G) (P Green) N Walker 12-9-5	R Cochrane	●
202	(4)	004100-	PRINCE DANZIG 118 (C,F,G) (A Ulnes) D Murray Smith 4-8-13	L Dettori	88
203	(3)	25004-0	MEDIATOR 21 (B,C,G) (N Jones) A Moore 6-8-11	D Harrison	82
204	(6)	21436-1	LONG FURLONG 19 (CD,F,G) (R Akehurst) R Akehurst 7-8-9	S Sanders (5)	85
205	(7)	00500-0	LON ISA 11 (Rosalina Racing) B Palling 4-8-4	A Clark	74
206	(1)	00F000-	BERNIE'S SISTER 47J (J Lewis) C Allen 4-7-10	J Quinn	–
207	(2)	0/P0000-	FOREVER BLUSHING 154 (F) (Mrs M Bryant) P Butler 4-7-10	G Bardwell	–

BETTING: 5-4 Elementary, 2-1 Long Furlong, 9-2 Prince Danzig, 6-1 Mediator, 16-1 Bernie's Sister, 20-1 Lon Isa, Forever Blushing.

1994: RAPPORTEUR 8-9-7 W Newnes (2-1) C C Elsey 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ELEMENTARY beat Chiberrel News 7l in 6-runner claimer here (AW, 1m 5f). PRINCE DANZIG best recent turf effort, beat Misty Goddess ¾l in 9-runner handicap at Brighton (1m 2f, good to firm). MEDIATOR 21¼l 4th of 9 to Ballyranter in rated stakes over course and distance penultimate start. LONG FURLONG beat Wottashambles 1¼l in 10-runner handicap over course and distance.
Selection: ELEMENTARY

2.15 VAUXHALL SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O. £2,483. 1m) (12 runners)

301	(4)	0063-13	GOOD SO FA 15 (CD,BF,G) (Mark Tompkins Racing) M Tompkins 9-2	S Mulvey (5)	98
302	(5)	00410-2	IRON MAN 7 (B,C,G) (J White) J White 9-2	S Drowne (5)	91
303	(11)	600605-	WITNEY-DE-BERGERAC 24 (G) (E Houghton) J Moore 9-2	R Hughes	88
304	(10)	0-	FOSTERS TOP 38 (D Potter) J Fitch-Heyes 8-11	N Adams	–
305	(8)	54005-0	CUBAN REEF 17 (Angley Stud Ltd) D Cosgrove 8-6	L Newton (5)	96
306	(3)	2030-51	FAHEMA 7 (C,G) (A Foustok) R Boss 8-6	L Dettori	●
307	(9)	02334-	LITTLE SCARLETT 35 (Mrs P Makin) P Makin 8-6	R Perham	98
308	(1)	66-0	MAYDAY KITTY 22 (B) (T Lightbowne) W G M Turner 8-6	J Stack (5)	–
309	(6)	00000-0	PLUCKY PET 10 (R Lamb) C Benstead 8-6	M Rimmer	87
310	(7)	06-	RED OWA LADY 208 (C Hill) C Hill 8-6	S Sanders (5)	–
311	(2)	0210-40	TACHYCARDIA 14 (D,F,G) (J Bury) R O'Sullivan 8-6	J Weaver	94
312	(12)	085-	TWO WAY STRETCH 187 (B Pennick) G L Moore 8-6	A Clark	85

BETTING: 5-2 Fahema, 4-1 Iron Man, 9-2 Good So Fa, 6-1 Tachycardia, 8-1 Little Scarlett, 10-1 Witney-De-Bergerac, 12-1 Mayday Kitty, 14-1 others.

1994: HERR TRIGGER 3-8-6 K Rutter (100-30) J Scargill 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

GOOD SO FA beat Iris Mon 1½l in 10-runner claimer over course and distance penultimate start with TACHYCARDIA (5lb better off) 7½l 4th and FAHEMA (9lb better off) ¾l 5th. CUBAN REEF 13½l 5th of 10 to Dark Shot in maiden here (AW, 7f) penultimate start with FOSTERS TOP (1lb better off) 18½l 9th. FAHEMA beat IRON MAN 4l in 10-runner seller here (AW, 7f). LITTLE SCARLETT 11½l 4th of 13 to Master Millfield in maiden auction here (AW, 7f). PLUCKY PET 11l 7th of 10 to Water Hazard in handicap here (AW, 7f). TWO WAY STRETCH about 7½l 5th of 8 to Bobanlyn in seller at Yarmouth (7f, good).
Selection: FAHEMA

2.45 DAILY STAR AWT 1M 2F CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP
(Qualifier: £3,917: 1m 2f) (11 runners)

401	(10)	00311-0	SECRET ALY 10 (C,G) (B Veal) C Brittain 5-10-0	M Rimmer	96
402	(7)	3/3000-	ULTIMATE WARRIOR 206 (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 5-10-0	R Cochrane	87
403	(9)	1/0002-2	RAWYA 21 (G) (K Al-Said) B Hills 4-9-12	J Weaver	89
404	(11)	0416-34	GLOBAL DANCER 17 (C,BF,G) (N Yong) W O'Gorman 4-9-10	Emma O'Gorman (3)	94
405	(6)	10014-3	OUR EDDIE 21 (V,CD,G) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 6-9-8	J Stack (5)	93
406	(11)	0244-00	FRIENDLY BRAVE 10 (S) (T Mills) T Mills 5-9-6	T Williams	95
407	(5)	43121-1	BALLYRANTER 19 (V,CD,F,G,S) (P Byrnes) H Collingridge 6-9-6	J Quinn	●
408	(4)	04000-1	BIREQUEST 21 (CD,G) (J Ellis) R Boss 4-9-5	L Dettori	91
409	(8)	100300-	ZACAROON 101 (G) (P Leonard) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-4	D Harrison	84
410	(3)	03800-2	A MILLION WATTS 14 (BF,F) (J Constable) Lady Herries 4-9-1	DOUBTFUL	93
411	(2)	100000-	SOZZLED 29J (V,G) (J Sneaden) A Barrow 4-9-0	A Mackay	89

BETTING: 11-4 Ballyranter, 7-2 Birequest, 9-2 Rawya, 11-2 Secret Aly, 7-1 Global Dancer, 8-1 Zacaroon, 10-1 Our Eddie, 12-1 Friendly Brave, 14-1 others.

1994: BEVERLY KNIGHT 4-9-6 D Biggs (2-1) D Murray Smith 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

SECRET ALY beat Roar On Tour 3l in 6-runner Wolverhampton handicap (AW, 1m 100yd) penultimate start. RAWYA 3½l 2nd of 8 to South Eastern Fred in course and distance handicap with OUR EDDIE (7lb better off) 9l 3rd. BALLYRANTER beat Camden's Ransom 8l in 5-runner course and distance rated stakes. BIREQUEST beat Awesome Power neck in course and distance handicap with GLOBAL DANCER (2lb better off) ¾l 3rd.
Selection: RAWYA

3.15 LINGFIELD PARK AWT SPRINT SERIES HANDICAP
(Qualifier: 3-Y-O: £2,964: 6f) (11 runners)

501	(3)	406-	NOMADIC DANCER 136 (Mrs D Saunders) M Saunders 9-7	A Dicks	84
502	(1)	2442-13	BON SECRET 10 (C,G) (F Jackman) T Naughton 9-6	S Sanders (5)	94
503	(5)	203-22	ONE FOR JEANNIE 6 (Mrs J Jones) A Bailey 9-4	J Weaver	90
504	(4)	00032-1	HALF TONE 17 (B,G) (Mrs G Temmerman) R Flower 8-13	L Dettori	90
505	(8)	660-	ROYAL UPRISING 150 (D Allen) G L Moore 8-13	S Whitworth	80
506	(6)	005600-	FIRST POINT 63 (Racing Days Racing) C Allen 8-11	E Guest	80
507	(10)	50000-3	PRINCE RUDOLF 21 (V,D,G) (J Colling) Mrs N Macauley 8-11	M Fenton	96
508	(2)	01453-5	ROTHERFIELD PARK 18 (G) (Miss B Dean) C Smith 8-9	W Woods	●
509	(11)	000004-	TWO CHALK 24 (V) (G Turner) P Evans 8-5	J Stack (5)	94
510	(7)	00-0	SHARTEL 17 (B) (S Palmer) M Johnston 8-1	T Williams	–
511	(9)	000400-	PRINCESS IN BLUE 28 (B) (C Hill) C Hill 8-1	J Quinn	80

BETTING: 7-2 One For Jeannie, 9-2 Half Tone, 5-1 Bon Secret, 6-1 Rotherfield Park, 8-1 Prince Rudolf, 10-1 Nomadic Dancer, 12-1 Royal Uprising, 14-1 others.

1994: RISKIE THINGS 3-8-11 N Adams (13-2) J Moore 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BON SECRET 5l and neck 3rd of 6 to Ultra Beet in rated stakes here (AW, 5f). ONE FOR JEANNIE 4l 2nd of 9 to Our Tom in Wolverhampton handicap (AW, 7f). HALF TONE beat ONE FOR JEANNIE (1lb better off) short-head in 6-runner Wolverhampton maiden handicap (AW, 5f). PRINCE RUDOLF 4½l 3rd of 8 to Believe Sunset in claimer here (AW, 5f). ROTHERFIELD PARK 9l 3rd of 7 to Go Hever Golf in course and distance nursery penultimate start. TWO CHALK 11l 4th to David James' Girl in Wolverhampton seller (AW, 7f).
Selection: BON SECRET

3.45 TOWER HANDICAP (£3,589. 2m) (7 runners)

601	(3)	304011-	ART FORM 57 (CD,F,G) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 8-10-0	T Ives	91
602	(6)	422-112	ARGYLE CAVALIER 11 (D,BF,F,G,S) (E Jones) M Johnston 5-9-12	Oliver Casey (7)	90
603	(5)	23/P00-3	ELBURG 10 (F) (Mrs A Gamble) R Hoad 5-9-2	R Cochrane	89
604	(1)	4606-50	ARCTIC GUEST 6 (C,D,F,G) (J Starbuck) C Smith 5-9-0	W Woods	89
605	(2)	0045-21	ARC BRIGHT 5 (CD,G) (J Bigg) R Hollinshead 5-8-13 (4ex)	L Dettori	●
606	(4)	0/46/6-0	THE COUNTRY DANCER 8 (Mrs Valerie Hubbard) K Ivory 5-7-8	J Quinn	–
607	(7)	0000-04	RAGTIME SONG 10 (CD,F,G) (Mrs E Kiernan) A Moore 6-7-7	M Baird (7)	87

Long handicap: Ragtime Song 7-4

BETTING: 6-4 Argyle Cavalier, 2-1 Arc Bright, 6-1 Art Form, 7-1 Elburg, 10-1 Arctic Guest, 20-1 Ragtime Song, 25-1 The Country Dancer

1994: ARC BRIGHT 4-6-5 L Dettori (11-4) R Hollinshead 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ART FORUM beat Mirosevalo neck in 12-runner course and distance handicap. ARGYLE CAVALIER best effort this term beat Mizyan 8l in 8-runner Southwell handicap (AW, 2m) with ARCTIC GUEST (10lb better off) 30½l 5th. ELBURG 6¼l 3rd of 7 to Kadin in amateurs' handicap over course and distance. ARCTIC GUEST 17l 9th of 10 to Secret Serenade in Wolverhampton handicap (AW, 2m). ARC BRIGHT beat Jawani 9l in 9-runner course and distance handicap. THE COUNTRY DANCER 42l last of 14 to Roar On Tour in handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m). RAGTIME SONG 13l 4th of 6 to Benfleet in handicap here (AW, 1m 4f).
Selection: ARC BRIGHT

4.15 HUNGERFORD APPRENTICES HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,701: 7f) (10 runners)

1	(8)	10130-5	THE LITTLE FERRET 14 (D,F) (R Higson) G L Moore 5-10-0	L Suthern (5)	97
2	(1)	01618/	DARAKAH 843 (CD,F,G,S) (C Hill) C Hill 8-10-0	S Sanders	–
3	(3)	308415-	BOGART 38 (CD,G) (A Development Products) C Fairhurst 4-9-12	J Stack	97
4	(6)	1000-00	VELOCE 12 (B,D,F,G) (M Gonzalez) A Bailey 7-9-8	Angela Gallimore (7)	96
5	(2)	014305-	WORDS OF WISDOM 59 (D,G) (N Hanson) C Cyzer 5-9-7	D R McCabe	87
6	(4)	1342/0-3	MEESON TIMES 11 (C,F,G,S) (C Castle) R Bastiman 7-9-5	H Bastiman (3)	87
7	(10)	020000-	SCOTS LAW 134 (B,CD,F,G) (G West) J Long 8-8-10	P McCabe	89
8	(7)	400/000-	RUSTIC LEAGUE 41 (P Whelan) T Naughton 4-8-7	V Halliday (3)	–
9	(9)	43006-4	GINGERILLO 17 (B) (Mrs V Morgan) T Mills 4-8-2	D Toole (5)	●
10	(5)	05/004-6	SWALLOW RIDGE 14 (S Kenny) R O'Sullivan 6-7-13	S Mulvey	98

BETTING: 7-2 The Little Ferret, 9-2 Bogart, 5-1 Words Of Wisdom, 6-1 Gingerillo, 7-1 Darakah, 10-1 Meeson Times, Swallow Ridge, 12-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

THE LITTLE FERRET 9¾l 5th of 10 to Kinnegad Kid in handicap here (AW, 1m) with SWALLOW RIDGE (3lb better off) ¾l 6th. DARAKAH 2l 5th of 29 to Gant Bleu in Newmarket handicap (7f, good to soft) in Oct 92. BOGART beat Sharp Imp neck in 16-runner course and distance handicap penultimate start. WORDS OF WISDOM 7¼l 5th of 10 to Rocky Waters in handicap here (AW, 6f). MEESON TIMES 3¼l 3rd of 15 to Perieno in Southwell handicap (AW, 6f). GINGERILLO 3¼l 4th to Pagazzo in course and distance handicap.
Selection: MEESON TIMES

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Walker	6	16	37.5	L Suthern	4	14	28.6
Lord Huntingdon	26	116	22.4	L Dettori	50	183	27.3
B Hills	14	64	21.9	Amanda Sanders	3	13	23.1
W O'Gorman	33	165	20.0	Emma O'Gorman	38	171	22.2
M Johnston	28	146	19.2	J Weaver	27	130	20.8
C Brittain	16	88	18.2	R Cochrane	22	133	16.5

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Southwell

Going: standard

12.45 (6f) 1, Whittingham Girl (S D Williams, 9-2); 2, Bella Parkes (Evens fav); 3, Swinging Tich (11-1). 9 ran. 1¼l, 1½l. J Berry. Tote: £3.50; £1.10, £1.10, £2.00. DF: £4.20. CSF: £9.66.

1.15 (1m) 1, Pc's Cruiser (D R McCabe, 12-1); 2, Persian Conquest (100-30 fav); 3, Poly Lane (7-2). 9 ran. ½l, 1½l. M Chapman. Tote: £10.10; £2.10, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £19.70. Trio: £19.40. CSF: £48.24. Tricast: £154.31.

1.45 (1m 4f) 1, All On (N Kennedy, 6-1); 2, Murphys Way (7-1); 3, Tuscania (12-1). J Shamwari Evens fav. 11 ran. 5l, 5l. J Hetherton. Tote: £8.00; £2.70, £1.60, £4.50. DF: £24.70. CSF: £46.66.

2.15 (1m 3f) 1, Simaat (R Cochrane, 7-4 fav; Thunderer's nap); 2, Palacegate Jo (11-2); 3, Imperial Bid (10-1). 8 ran. 3½l, nk. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £2.80; £1.20, £1.80, £3.00. DF: £5.00. CSF: £11.95. Tricast: £70.72.

2.45 (1m) 1, Hawwam (J Weaver, 5-1); 2, Mam'zelle Angot (8-1); 3, Hawaii Storm (8-1). Roar On Tour 13-8 fav. 13 ran. 7l, 2l. E Alston. Tote: £6.90; £2.20, £2.60, £1.80. DF: £31.70. Trio: £26.50. CSF: £44.64. Tricast: £299.16.

3.15 (6f) 1, Warwick Warrior (J Weaver, 7-1); 2, Fairey Firefly (6-1); 3, Cheerful Groom (9-4 fav). 11 ran. 1¾l, ¾l. Mrs L Piggott. Tote: £7.30; £2.00, £2.00, £1.40. DF: £12.80. Trio: £33.50. CSF: £47.19. Tricast: £113.28.

3.45 (6f) 1, Jamaica Bridge (J Stack, 7-2); 2, Sea Devil (10-11 fav); 3, Sense of Priority (8-1). 8 ran. 2¼l, 2½l. S Norton. Tote: £5.20; £1.10, £1.30, £2.10. DF: £2.50. CSF: £7.27.

4.15 (1m) 1, Grand Selection (M Fenton, 11-10 fav; Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Warrior Lady (12-1); 3, Poly Road (3-1). 9 ran. 7l, 8l. M Bell. Tote: £2.10; £1.30, £3.10, £1.50. DF: £14.60. Trio: £42.60. Tricast: £30.65. CSF: £15.20.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £4,271.51 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).
Placepot: £103.70. Quadpot: £65.00.

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 2.15 Mayday Kitty. 2.45 Sozzled. 3.15 3.15 Prince Rudolf, Shartel.

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SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)		Conditions		Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)		Last snow
	L	U	Piste	Off/p			°C	
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	60	90	fair	fair	slush	thaw	4	22/1
Mild temps at all levels causing bare patches to form								
Obergurgl	60	130	good	varied	good	sun	4	21/1
Lovely skiing on fresh snow. 21/22 lifts open								
Schladming	70	130	good	heavy	fair	fine	0	21/1
Pistes in good condition despite slight thaw								
Söll	50	80	fair	heavy	fair	thaw	6	20/1
Hard/icy patches in am, becoming soft/heavy by pm								
FRANCE								
Alpe D'huez	110	250	good	heavy	poor	rain	1	23/1
Snowing above 1800m, rain below. 56/82 lifts open								
Courchevel	110	200	good	heavy	poor	rain	0	23/1
Avalanche risk, closing all upper runs, wet lower down								
Isola	40	80	good	varied	fair	cloud	3	20/1
Good skiing on soft pistes. 17/24 lifts open								
Tignes	140	210	good	varied	good	snow	0	23/1
Great prospects after fresh snow, visibility poor								
Val Thorens	210	260	good	powder	good	snow	1	23/1
Pistes under deep powder, links to 3 vallees closed								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	70	130	good	varied	heavy	rain	3	23/1
Off piste crusty after wind, light rain falling								
Grindelwald	25	95	fair	heavy	slush	rain	5	23/1
Upper lifts closed due to wind, wet lower down								
Klosters	70	150	good	varied	fair	cloud	5	21/1
Some worn patches on lower slopes. All 29 lifts open								
Wengen	30	90	fair	heavy	slush	rain	4	23/1
Snow deteriorating due to foehn/wind. 15/22 lifts open								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial

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صكا من الاصل

Australia pitch in second leg spinner against ailing touring team

England get little relief from call to spin doctors

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN BENDIGO

ENGLAND'S preoccupation with an unmanageable injury list not only condemned their match against Victoria to an unsatisfactory draw here yesterday, but also restricted the scope of their plans for the fourth Test match, which starts on Thursday. How they must envy Australia, who yesterday were able to change their team through causes of form and tactics, rather than the compulsions of fitness.

Michael Bevan and Tim May have been dropped from the Australia 12 for Adelaide. Their replacements, Greg Blewett and Peter McIntyre will both be making Test debuts on their home ground and McIntyre will be a second leg spinner in the side.

England have no such luxury of choice. Indeed, Michael Atherton, the captain, last night mused on the possibility that a player who is strictly unfit, such as Neil Fairbrother, may yet need to be pressed into service.

It was easy to sympathise with the predicament of Atherton as he called off the quest for 255 in 57 overs to beat Victoria. Dean Jones, the home captain, evidently disagrees, for he testily described England's cautious progress to 139 for one as "bloody disgraceful". It was certainly unambitious but the incapacity of two batsmen — Alec Stewart and Graeme Hick — meant that England's tail started at No 6.

Atherton, who batted throughout the 190-minute innings for 59, rightly concluded that it was more important to negotiate the day without further casualties, and with important batsmen spending time at the crease, than in headlong pursuit of improbable and irrelevant victory. Nobody who has witnessed the prolonged ravaging of this team could deem that irresponsible.

Much the liveliest talking-point of another sun-filled day was the Australian team selection. Neither of the discards can feel greatly aggrieved, Bevan having totalled 81 runs in six innings and May having taken only one wicket in the series, but the Australians' stated policy has been to identify players and remain loyal to them, so the changes still caused a jolt of surprise.

Blewett, 23, is an extravagant queue-jumper for Bevan's batting place. Two weeks ago, Justin Langer, Damien Martyn and Ricky Ponting were all appreciably ahead of him. But the combination of his arresting strokeplay in the World Series Cup games for Australia A and his ability to bowl the back-up seamers that Steve Waugh at present cannot has earned Blewett a cap and, in all probability, a tour to West Indies.

The choice of McIntyre, 28, is more pertinent to the match at hand. Provided that he plays ahead of a third specialist seam bowler, which is probable, he will form with Shane Warne the type of wrist-spin pairing that England have not faced for many years and will not relish this week. McIntyre and Blewett room together when South Australia go on the road; that they should now win promotion together is one of those romantic coincidences this game throws up.

It may not be too long before a batsman much younger even than Blewett is pressing for Test honours. England already knew something of Brad Hodge, for he had treated their bowling insultingly in making 96 not out for the Australian Academy last month. Yesterday, after a lean run in the Sheffield Shield, he resurfaced with 104.

Hodge, 19, is a strong and resourceful right-hander who loves to cut and pull when the ball is dropped short and sweeps spin expertly. Philip Tufnell, who had bowled admirably on Sunday, could not contain him yesterday and Hodge reached his century, of which the last 38 runs came in 50 minutes, with two consecutive cuts for four. It was a shame, but a mark of Atherton's unbending principles, that only Graham Gooch found it in him to applaud when Hodge left the field.

The new ball removed both Hodge and his partner in a 114-run stand for the sixth wicket, David Emerson. But, just as they had done in the Victoria first innings, England lost momentum against the tail and Paul Reiffel was able to take his batting time in the match to 200 minutes before Jones declared, ten minutes after lunch.

It was a fair target to set if one disregarded all of England's handicaps. It remained an achievable target while Gooch and Atherton were making solid progress against the new ball, but once they became becalmed, each side of the tea interval, the chase was plainly abandoned. Gooch was the one man out but he had batted with more mobility and conviction than for some weeks.

Jones did not exactly encourage adventure, simply rotating his four seam bowlers until the last hour had begun and the game was dead, but the truth of it was that the Victorians bowled too well for England to escape the leash.

The crowd in this friendly town, contributing to a 20,000 turnout over four days, suffered in silence, enjoying a final day on their curiously contrived ground where the grandstand is flanked by two brightly coloured fairground ticket booths and the mobile toilets, similarly gaudy, rejoice in the label of "Dragable Dunny". The local cricket association was even moved to make a presentation to the Barmy Army — or, at least, the good guys who disown the trouble-making hangers-on.

England have enjoyed their time in Bendigo, though doubtless not the consequences of it. Stewart is now purely a passenger, Hick's back condition is an increasing concern and the captain's own, long-term spinal problems were troubling him once more yesterday. A headcount on match-day morning will, as is now customary, be England's concession to Test selection.

AUSTRALIA XII

M A Taylor (captain), M J Slater, D C Boon, M E Waugh, G S Blewett, S R Waugh, I A Healy, S K Warne, C J McDermott, P E McIntyre, D W Fleming, G D McGrath.

GRAHAM MORRIS

Gooch pulls Cook, the Victoria fast bowler, to the boundary but England settled for a draw in Bendigo

SCOREBOARD

VICTORIA: First Innings 248.

Second Innings

R P Larkin c Atherton b DeFreitas	27
M T G Elliott st Rhodes b Tufnell	73
*D M Jones c Rhodes b Malcolm	31
B J Hodge c Rhodes b DeFreitas	104
G Gardiner b Malcolm	0
I J Harvey c sub b Tufnell	2
D Emerson b DeFreitas	23
P R Reiffel not out	22
†D S Berry c Rhodes b Malcolm	8
S H Cook not out	13
Extras (b 2, lb 10, w 1, nb 9)	31
Total (8 wkts dec)	334

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-73, 2-127, 3-151, 4-152, 5-172, 6-288, 7-289, 8-308.

BOWLING: Malcolm 29-5-88-3; DeFreitas 24.1-3-74-3; Tufnell 31-6-93-2; Benjamin 17-5-67-0.

ENGLAND XI: First Innings 329 (G A Hick 143; P R Reiffel 4 for 63).

Second Innings

G A Gooch c Berry b Harvey	48
*M A Atherton not out	59
G P Thorpe not out	23
Extras (lb 6, w 1, nb 1)	9
Total (1 wkt)	139

FALL OF WICKET: 1-94.

BOWLING: Cook 11-4-32-0; Reiffel 14-2-35-0; Corbett 9-1-37-0; Harvey 10-4-24-1; Emerson 4-3-4-0; Gardiner 2-1-1-0.

Umpires: D L Holt and R A Emerson.

Vaughan returns to form

MICHAEL VAUGHAN may have hung on to his place for the second England A five-day international match against India A after scoring 87 against the Combined Universities in Delhi yesterday. Vaughan's highest score of the tour came after David Hemp, his rival for a place in the match at Calcutta later this week, was out first ball.

England declared at 214 for five in their second innings, having opted not to enforce the follow-on after polishing off the Combined Universities first innings early in the day.

Keith Piper and Min Patel, who made 48 and 56 respectively, took advantage of being pushed up the order as the England management gave them the chance of some lengthy batting practice. Vaughan was caught at slip after hitting a six and 11 fours in a stay of 116 balls.

The declaration, on the stroke of tea, set the Universities an imposing 603 to win. More realistically, it gave the A team hope of a huge victory margin. But the students showed more stomach for a fight second time around and, by the close of the third day, they had reached 96 for two.

Glen Chapple, celebrating his 21st birthday, struck with the new ball but England's only other success in the final session came when Ian Salisbury defeated Vasant Kumar, the opening batsman, with a perfectly pitched googly.

Hemp had cut a sad figure after being leg-before to the first ball of the England A second innings. The Glamorgan left-hander made only 28 in the first innings and, against second-rate student opposition, that may not be good enough, especially with Vaughan returning to form.

The 20-year-old Yorkshire opener's place was under threat after he scored just one and two in the first international in Bangalore last week.

DELHI SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND A XI: First Innings 553 (M R Ramprakash 124, J E R Gallian 100, P N Weekes 93, A P Wells 51)

Second Innings

D L Hemp lbw b Tandon	0
M P Vaughan c Pathak b Bali	87
†K J Piper b Khole	48
M M Patel c Pathak b Bali	56
G Chapple st Mewada b Pathak	16
I D K Salisbury not out	4
Extras (lb 3)	3
Total (5 wkts dec)	214

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-85, 3-157, 4-210, 5-214

BOWLING: Tandon 10-1-46-1; Pawar 5-0-29-0; Singh 11-3-45-0; Khole 10-0-47-1; Pathak 1.1-0-6-1; Bali 6-0-38-2

COMBINED UNIVS XI: First Innings

J L Das Chowdhry b Gallian	25
C Vasant Kumar b Johnson	0
P Pathak c Johnson b Salisbury	47
A Tande lbw b Gallian	0
P Yagik c Salisbury b Johnson	10
M Bali c Weekes b Patel	21
†M Mewada run out	10
A Tandon c Salisbury b Weekes	20
D Pawar c sub b Johnson	9
N Singh c Piper b Salisbury	0
P Khole not out	9
Extras (b 4, lb 2, nb 8)	14
Total	165

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-48, 3-48, 4-70, 5-115, 6-115, 7-147, 8-149, 9-149.

BOWLING: Chapple 7-1-25-0; Johnson 19-6-43-3; Gallian 7-1-36-2; Patel 11-2-19-1, Salisbury 12-3-26-2, Wells 4-0-10-1

Second Innings

J L Das Chowdhry lbw b Chapple	4
C Vasant Kumar lbw b Salisbury	46
P Pathak not out	37
P Yagik not out	1
Extras (b4 w1 nb3)	8
Total (2 wkts)	96

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-69

BOWLING: Chapple 4-1-13-1, Johnson 9-4-32-0, Gallian 8-2-15-0, Salisbury 8-3-23-1, Patel 7-4-9-0

Umpires: B A Jamula and K A Parthasarathy

De Villiers completes rout

SOUTH Africa needed only half an hour to complete a 324-run victory over Pakistan on the final morning of their inaugural Test match at the Wanderers in Johannesburg yesterday.

Pakistan, 149 for seven overnight, were bowled out for 165, with Fanie de Villiers taking four for 27. De Villiers, the man of the match, finished with his best Test match analysis, ten for 108. He thus became the first South African to take ten wickets and score a half-century in Test cricket.

South Africa surpassed their previous largest victory margin in Test matches at home, the 323-run win over Australia at St George's Park, Port Elizabeth, in 1970. Their biggest winning margin is 356 runs, achieved in the defeat of England at Lord's last year.

Pakistan's hopes of staging any resistance rested on Inzamam-ul-Haq, who had batted with style on Sunday for his unbeaten 86. Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, looked to his new ball pair of De Villiers and Allan Donald to wrap up the innings, and they did not disappoint.

After Donald had accounted for Kabir Khan in his second over of the day, De Villiers removed Inzamam, who edged behind, in the next. It was one of four catches in the innings for Dave Richardson, the wicketkeeper. Inzamam had batted for 4¼ hours, faced 179 deliveries and struck six fours in his 95.

Fittingly, it fell to De Villiers to seal victory in his next over, when Aqib Javed drove loosely and was taken at the wicket without scoring.

☐ South Africa have recalled Andrew Hudson, the opening batsman, for the forthcoming tour of New Zealand. Hudson was dropped for the final match of the three-match series against New Zealand. He replaces John Commins, who sustained a groin strain in the victory over Pakistan yesterday. South Africa are due to arrive in New Zealand on February 10 and will play a one-off Test and a quadrangular one-day tournament, which also includes Australia and India.

SQUAD: W J Cronje (captain), G Kirsten, A C Hudson, P J R Steyn, D J Cullinan, M J R Rindel, J N Rhodes, D J Callaghan, B M McMillan, D J Richardson, P L Symcox, C R Matthews, E O Simons, C E Eksteen, P S de Villiers, A A Donald.

JOHANNESBURG SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 460 (B M McMillan 113, P S de Villiers 66 not out, G Kirsten 62).

Second Innings 259 for 7 dec (D J Cullinan 69 not out)

PAKISTAN: First Innings 230 (Salim Malik 99; P S de Villiers 6 for 81)

Second Innings

Aamir Sohail c McMillan b De Villiers	0
Saeed Anwar c De Villiers b Donald	1
Asif Mujtaba c Richardson b McMillan	26
*Salim Malik lbw b De Villiers	1
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Richardson b De Villiers	95
Ijaz Ahmed c Richardson b McMillan	1
†Moin Khan c Rhodes b Eksteen	0
Wasim Akram c Kirsten b Eksteen	11
Kabir Khan c Eksteen b Donald	10
Aqib Javed c Richardson b De Villiers	0
Aamir Nazir not out	1
Extras (b 8, lb 7, w 1, nb 3)	19
Total	165

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-3, 3-5, 4-98, 5-100, 6-101, 7-124, 8-164, 9-164.

BOWLING: Donald 15-3-53-2; De Villiers 19.3-11-27-4; McMillan 11-1-33-2; Eksteen 19-7-34-2; Cronje 5-0-23-0

Man of the match: P S de Villiers.

Umpires: M J Kitchen (England) and C Mitchley (South Africa)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *44*

CHIRAGH

(a) A primitive oil lamp used in India and adjacent countries. Also *chirag, chirak*. "To-night we'll light tiny, weenie *chiraghs*."

GREAZE

(b) Westminster School slang for a crowd, origin unknown. "Few will forget how they pressed through the surrounding 'greaze', fought their way up to the notice-board."

FLOORER

(b) In the game of skittles, a throw with the first of three balls which floors all the pins. Alan Herbert in *Water Gypsies*: "A stranger to the game could not have told how it happened, but in less than a second the frame was clear — not one pin standing — a floorer."

ACUSHLA

(c) A term of address: Dear heart; darling. From Irish *O* + *cuisle* meaning vein or pulse. F. O'Connor in *Bones of Contention*: "Cross me, acushla, and I'll shift my tent."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rh3 Bg8 (1 ... h6 2 Nxh6 and Black falls apart); 2 Ne5! and the threat of Ng6 forces Black to relinquish his queen.

McCall's trainer defects to Lewis

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

LENNOX LEWIS has chosen Emanuel Steward, the man who masterminded his downfall against Oliver McCall, to be his new trainer. Lewis has been without a trainer since September, when Pepe Correa was dismissed some days after Lewis lost the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight title to McCall at Wembley Arena. Lewis's manager, Frank Maloney, said yesterday that it had taken so long to find a new trainer because Lewis wanted to be certain of making the right decision.

Steward was selected from a shortlist of three Americans, which included Richie Giachetti, who worked with Mike Tyson, and Thell Torrance, an assistant to Eddie Futch, the famous trainer of great heavyweights.

"It goes to show how seriously Emanuel takes Lennox because he gave up training McCall to come and work with Lennox," Maloney said. "I think it'll be a great relationship. When I saw Lennox working with Emanuel, I could see Lennox's eyes athirst again for knowledge, like when he first started boxing. The enthusiasm was back and we realised by the end of 1995 we would have the title back in England."

Lewis said he picked Steward because "the chemistry was right" and Steward knew how to develop a tall puncher like him, having trained Thomas Hearns. Steward said he hoped to make Lewis the greatest heavyweight since Muhammad Ali. Best known for his boxers from the Kronk gym in Detroit, Steward has been involved with 19 world champions.

Lewis: "as good as Ali"

"I've always thought Lennox was one of the best naturally talented fighters out there, even when I was training McCall," Steward said. "It's a challenge for me to work with him and in five years I hope to make him the greatest heavyweight we've had since Ali.

"My main concern is to get Lennox back to the heavyweight title as quickly as possibly. He can punch and box, he does it all. I believe he's the only heavyweight that could bring heavyweights back to the public eye, the way it used to be."

Lewis's first return bout, against Lionel Butler in March, has, however, been bedevilled by a contractual dispute. John Morris, the secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, hopes to sort out the problem by asking the WBC to put the bout out to purse offers.

CHOICE

Restoration of a composer

The English Waltz King. *Radio 2, 9.00pm.*

I would hesitate to call Archibald Joyce this country's Johann Strauss, but he was probably as close as we have got to producing our own Emile Waldteufel. His waltzes, and to a lesser degree his marches, pleased the Edwardians mightily, and I suspect that they would still be delightful to dance to, and stirring to march to, in the 1990s. It is monstrous that not one reference book on my loaded shelves even mentions his name. Philip Lane has scripted, and Tim McDonald produced, this long-overdue tribute to a prolific composer and leader of an orchestra that, in its day, was pre-eminent at society balls and royal command performances.

Night Waves in Rome. *Radio 3, 10.45pm.*

John Baxter's unsurpassed biography of the Italian film director Federico Fellini carries a story, probably apocryphal to the effect that when visitors to Rome were asked whom they most wanted to meet, would say the Pope, the Italian President of the day, and Fellini. The director's death in 1993 has ruled out the possibility of *Night Waves* presenter Christopher Cook meeting him. This will be the only piece that is missing from tonight's ambitiously planned jigsaw puzzle about what Rome did for Fellini and what Fellini did for Rome. I say jigsaw puzzle because what producer Paul Quinn attempts is a kaleidoscopic vision not unlike Fellini's Rome as depicted in *La Dolca Vita* and *Satyricon*.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including The Amazing Spiderman **7.00** Evening Session: Jo Whiley is at the Brat Awards and Steve Lamacq is in the studio **9.00** The Bruce Dickinson Rock Show **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **8.45** Pause for Thought **9.30** Martin Kelner, including at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford including at **2.30** the star guest interview and at **3.00** Three after Three **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hayes Over Britain: Phone 0645 288291 **8.30** Mr Finchley Goes to Paris, by Victor Canning (r) **9.00** The English Waltz King: See Choice **10.00** Back Numbers: Dave Gelly delves into the archives of the popular music press (3/4) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00am** The Breakfast Programme, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine with Diana Madill, including at **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Dirty News **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.15** Prime Minister's Questions **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** The Tuesday Match: full coverage of tonight's football action **10.05** News Talk, with Nigel Cassidy **11.00** Night Extra, incl **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Off the Shelf: *Oscar and Lucinda* **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** The Life of Numbers **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Poets of Place **9.30** On Screen **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Discovery **10.30** Ports of Call **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: Hit List **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Strong Poison* **2.45** Turning a Tune **3.00** News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** World Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.15am** Concert Hall **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** What's News? **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Discovery **4.00** Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Bloch (Violin Concerto) **3.00** Alan Mann **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Opera Guide **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Gary King **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Chopin (Ballade No 1 in G minor, Op 23); Vivaldi (Concerto in F for four violins, Op 3 No 7); Debussy (La Damoiselle élue); Wagner (Prelude: Lohengrin); Vierne (Carillons de Westminster); **8.32** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in F, Op 50 No 5, Dream)
9.00 Composers of the Week: 20th-Century Scots. Presented by Brian Morton. Thomas Wilson (Introit, Towards the Light); Martin Dalby (Man Walking); Sally Beamish (Oracle Beach)
10.00 Musical Encounters: from Glasgow. Including more songs for Burns Night, and at **10.15** Bernstein (Chichester Psalms); **10.35** Bartók (Suite No 2); **11.10** *Artists of the Week*: The Whistlebinkies. Edward McGuire (Macbeth); **11.25** Spohr (Nonet in F)
12.00 Music Restored: Early Music Network. Motets by Lassus and Palestrina (r)
1.00pm The BBC Orchestras: BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Jacek Kaspszyk; Dmitri Sitkovetsky, violin. Bartók (Violin Concerto No 2); Elgar (Symphonic Prelude: Polonia) (r)
2.00 Schools: Playtime **2.15** Time to Move **2.35** Listen!
3.00 Some Versions of Pastoral: Piers Burton-Page presents the first of four explorations of the pastoral theme in British music as seen in excerpts from works by Blow, Handel, Dowland, Holst, Elgar, Warlock, Broughton, Gurney, Butterworth and Browne
5.00 The Music Machine: *Tommy Pearson travels to Portugal and discovers a different type of blues — fado*
5.15 In Tune: Music and arts stories with Mairi Nicholson, including **5.20** Bach (Fantasia in C minor); and at **6.03** Albéniz (Iberia, excerpts)
7.30 Pebble Mill: Live from Studio 1, Oliver Widmer, baritone; Iain Burnside, piano, perform Schumann (Liederkreis, Op 39); **8.20** Interval: Singers discuss the trials of keeping the voice in order (r); **8.40** Songs by Schubert setting poems by Schiller and Goethe, including *An Schwager Kronos* and *Erlkönig*
9.30 Women Writers of the 17th Century: Delarivier Manley
9.45 Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival 1994: Stephen Pratt introduces items from recitals by the Danish Wind Quintet which performs Jonathan *Harvey's Album and Mogen* Winkel Holm's *Quintet*. Plus extracts from recitals by the violinist Mieko Kanno which include the premiere of *Maps and Diagrams of Our Pain* by Gordon McPherson
10.45 Night Waves in Rome: See Choice
11.30-12.30am The BBC Orchestras: BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier. Verdi (Overture: La forza del destino); Mendelssohn (Symphony No 4 in A, Italian); Tchaikovsky (Capriccio Italien)
1.00-2.10 Night School: History 9-11 **1.40** Tales from Europe

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Call Nick Ross: 071-580 4444: Topical phone-in
10.00-10.30 News: Billy Bragg Among the British (FM only): Hastings, England (3/3)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Pilgrim's Progress (LW only), by John Bunyan (r)
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Looking for Trouble* (8/13)
11.30 Medicine Now
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Oliver Twist: First of a six-part adaptation of Charles Dickens's novel (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Lady in Red, by Helen Griffin. Julie and Gareth meet at a karaoke night in Swansea. But will their romance last? With Sara Harris-Davies and Jeremi Cockram
2.30 Dancing for a Living: Wayne Sleep talks about his life in dance
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Vaughan is joined by the baritone Sanford Sylvan and Michael Dobbs, author of the *House of Cards* and *To Play the King*
4.45 Short Story: Barry Norman's Tie. Written and read by Susie Maguire (r)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 If You're So Clever, Why Aren't You Rich? Third of a six-part comedy by Paul Shearer and Richard Turner
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4: Gerry Northam reports
8.00 Science Now (r)
8.30 Gosling en France: La Gastronomie. Will French cuisine survive the fast-food onslaught? Ray Gosling visits a young caterer in Burgundy who is determined to preserve the old traditions, and takes part in a primary school class where children are taught to listen to apples and bananas (r)
9.00 In Touch: Magazine for people with a visual handicap. With Peter White
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Quartered Safe Out Here. George MacDonald Fraser reads the seventh of his recollections of the war in Burma
11.00 Mediumwave: Joanna Coles explores the week's events in the media (r)
11.30 Hidden Voices (FM only): Holland — Hilversum. Third of six portraits of Muslims in Europe (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2**: FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3**: FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4**: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. **RADIO 5**: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LONDON RADIO**: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL**: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR**: FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE**: MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM**: FM-100-102. **VIRGIN**: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey**

هكذا من الاصل

A dizzying dance to the rhythm of low life

REVIEW

Peter Barnard

Some poor souls in the television business think that critics only write about programmes in order to attack them. Much like the devil supposedly having all the best tunes, the lousy tends to have all the best synonyms and the temptation to invoke them is great.

Awful, trash, tosh,' cretinous, misguided, hopeless. Compare these barbs with good, splendid, delightful, absorbing, riveting and terrific . . . mushy, aren't they? No contest, is it? But wait.

The fact that my thesaurus has an inexplicable tendency to fall open at page 291 (Malevolence) is merely circumstancial evidence, which as anyone in **NYPD Blue** (Channel 4) will tell you is the least reliable kind. So let me demonstrate my native fairness by rushing to page 299 (Approbation), which contains more than a column of assistance in the matter of discussing *NYPD Blue*.

"To approve, think well or highly of, esteem, appreciate, value, prize, admire, countenance, endorse." Yes Mr Roget, I'll take a kilo of verbs and, let's see, half a dozen of your juiciest adjectives.

The return of *NYPD Blue* last night is one of those golden moments for the television viewer, like discovering a lost series of *Cheers* in a broom cupboard or hearing that Jeremy Beadle has mislaid his grin. Dennis Franz and David Caruso are back as the lead detectives, respectively Sipowicz and Kelly, though Kelly is slated to disappear in episode four (I'm betting the mob get him) because Caruso wants a career in Hollywood.

The magnificent Franz will remain, his sweating, lumbering Sipowicz now with added compassion, an empathy for the downtrodden that give his colourful threats a certain moral base, delivered with the assistance of script rhythms that are savagely funny.

Sipowicz to a wife-beater: "I'm talkin' about goin' off the end of a pier with a rock round your middle and a noose round your neck, I'm talkin' about suckin' water in your lungs 'til you're dead."

Wife-beater: "You threatening me?"

This dialogue, pure New York street with added pzazz, straightened-out syntax and obscenities (mostly) excised, is the soundtrack to a visual experience that, one must admit, requires a perfectly stable inner ear. *NYPD Blue* is filmed as if the camera is attached to the eyelids of a nervous man who thinks he is being followed.

People lurch out of shot, close-ups cut to rapid pans in which the camera hurries left to right while a character marches right to left. To watch *NYPD Blue* is to prepare oneself for a force ten Channel crossing balanced on a cork. It is all beautifully engineered without ever being slick, the latter a fault with one of Steven Bochco's other creations, *LA Law*.

Of course *NYPD Blue* owes more to an earlier Bochco effort, *Hill Street Blues*, but if that was great this is surely greater. *Hill Street* leant far too heavily on wild characterisation, *NYPD Blue* stands on the conventional props of great writing and brilliant acting.

The storyline picks up from the old series with Kelly's girl on trial for killing mobsters and Kelly balancing conscience against career. It's a convincing story in a compelling series. And that's Approbation, almost used up.

But not quite. I feel a powerful urge to borrow Dennis Franz's *NYPD Blue* persona and offer him six months at the British Foreign Office as Head Backside Kicker, or HBK as that initials-obsessed organisation would soon know him.

Also returning to Channel 4 last night was the **Cutting Edge** series, with a moving documentary called *Growing Apart*, in which seven British women, whose children had been abducted by their Libyan husbands years before, attempted to get access to their children, in spite of a colossal show of indifference from our men at the FO.

Not just indifference, but misinformation, for the FO had told the women that they had no rights apropos their children under Libyan law. *Cutting Edge* did not dwell too much on how the women came to marry their Libyan men and why the children were whisked off to the bosom of Libyan families without the mothers' by-your-leave.

Instead the focus was the remarkable achievement of two freelance journalists in opening doors the FO had declared not just shut but non-existent. Ann Jousiffe and Corinne Simcock contacted the Libyan Higher Committee for Children, which despite its Orwellian title turned out to believe that children did indeed have a right to see their mothers.

Sadly, the seven met maddening obstructionism at the Libyan resort where they were supposed to meet the children sans the fathers. Three sets of children did not turn up and the other four turned up but with the fathers in tow.

There followed stomach-churning moments in which a mother who palpably went unrecognised by the child she had not seen for four years pointed at herself and said "mama" repeatedly. And a boy with clear, sad eyes said: "I hate Libya, I want to go home". There were moments of the purest anger, on the part of the mother still denied access even after the long preparation and the long journey, and indeed on the part of this viewer.

I daresay the Foreign Office is pursuing "wider interests" in Colonel Gadaffi's ghastly redoubt. I daresay a few children unhappily and illegally separated from their mothers constitute a mere sideshow to the mandarins of Whitehall. But in whose name are these attitudes adopted? Not mine. Nor, I think, yours.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (90502)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (18207328)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (8565724)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1443144) **10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick**. Weekday magazine presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (s) (85722618)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7996892) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Gloria Hunniford (s) (3992057) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (78377521)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (88618)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (91024250) **1.50 Timekeepers**. Quiz game presented by Bill Dod (s) (91035366)

2.15 FILM: Getting Married in Buffalo Jump (1989) starring Wendy Crewson and Paul Gross. *Canadian-made romance about the on-off affair* between a ranch owner and her hired hand. Directed by Eric Till (915960)

3.50 Jackanory. Simion Schatzberger with part two of *Kathy Henderson's story, Second-Time Charley* (s) (5456219) **4.00 Willy Fogg**. Animated adventures based on Jule Verne's *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*. (Ceefax) (3573647) **4.25 Grimmy** (6166328) **4.35 Incredible Games**. (Ceefax) (s) (4230250)

5.00 Newsround (6656705) **5.05 Grange Hill**. Secondary school drama serial. (Ceefax) (s) (9174881)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (906328)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (811)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (163)

7.00 Holiday. Reports on a golfing break in Portugal; *mobile home holidays in the Cognac region of* France; South Carolina; and Tunisia. (Ceefax) (s) (8786)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (347)

8.00 A Question Of Sport. *David Coleman, Bill* Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Sam Torrance, Erik Thorstvedt, Adrian Maguire and Kendra Slawski. (Ceefax) (s) (7434)

8.30 Ain't Misbehavin'. *Marital infidelity comedy series starring Peter Davison, Nicola Pagett, John Duttine* and Polly Hemingway. (Ceefax) (s) (6569)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7279)

9.30 FILM: Black Rain (1989) starring Michael Douglas and Andy Garcia. Two New York policemen are given the job of delivering a Japanese gangster to the Japanese authorities in Osaka but he escapes and the two officers are forced to search for him on foreign territory. Directed by Ridley Scott. (Ceefax) (s) (30873). **Wales:** Week In Week Out 10.00 Wales Playhouse 10.30 Film: Black Rain 12.30-1.50 Film: Patton — Lust for Glory

George C. Scott as General Patton (11.30pm)

11.30 FILM: Patton — Lust for Glory (1970) starring George C. Scott. *The first of a two-part biopic of the* controversial American Second World War general. Directed by Franklin J. Schaffner. (Ceefax) (969347)

12.50am Weather (3695039)

BBC2

7.00 The Adventures of Buzzy Bee and Friends (r) (s) (4472347) **7.05 The Family Ness** (r) (4471618) **7.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8721873). **7.35 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1951873)

8.00 BBC Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (8859347) **8.15 The Record** (7201637)

8.35 Consuming Passions. Dolmades (r) (s) (7299989) **8.40 The Time of Your Life**. Canadian series about adventurous older people (4913453)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (8884317) *1.40-1.45 You and Me (66603569)* **2.00** *Gordon* T. Gopher (41241989)

2.10 ***Man on the Rim: The Peopling of the Pacific*** (r) (5143298)

3.00 News and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross**. (Ceefax) (9009499) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (1751801)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (796)

4.30 Regional programmes. Shown last Thursday at 7.30 (960). **Wales:** Secret Gardens

5.00 Children's Hospital (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9892)

5.30 Catchword with Paul Cola (s) (540)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (s) (455250)

6.25 Heartbreak High. Drama series set in an Australian inner-city high school. (Ceefax) (s) (699569)

7.10 The Tick. Animated comedy (632038)

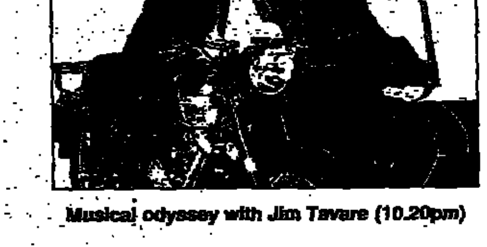
7.30 Painting the World (989)

8.00 Public Eye: Never Never Land. Su Pennington investigates the world of moneylenders and their clients. (Ceefax) (5076)

8.30 Food and Drink. Includes the final of the first Raymond Blanc Scholership competition. (Ceefax) (s) (7811)

9.00 Joking Apart. Comedy series about a scriptwriter whose wife has left him for an estate agent. Starring Robert Bathurst. (Ceefax) (s) (8521)

9.30 Crusades. (Ceefax) (s) (428250)



Musical odyssey with Jim Tavare (10.20pm)

10.20 Jim Tavare Pictures Presents . . . The third of six tales about comedian Jim Tavare and his best friend — a double bass (s) (113163)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (978142)

11.15 The Late Show. Tracey MacLeod investigates the phenomenal success of commercial radio stations (s) (953076) **11.55 Weather** (302618)

12.00 News followed by **The Midnight Hour** (5965038). Ends at **12.55am**

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CHOICE

Richard Leakey saved Kenya's elephants (ITV, 10.40pm)

Network First: The Man Who Saved the Animals
ITV, 10.40pm

Sandy Gall presents an admiring profile of Richard Leakey, who wears the equally distinguished hats of conservationist and authority on the origins of the human species. His recent claim to fame was his spell as head of the Kenya Wildlife Service. He was called in by President Moi to stop the killing of elephants for ivory and to save the tourist trade. Both objects were triumphantly achieved, but Leakey departed amid accusations from Kenyan politicians of arrogance, *racism and corruption. His brother concedes the* arrogance but dismisses the rest. As a fossil hunter Leakey followed his famous parents, Louis and Mary Leakey, in piecing together the story of human ancestry. Although he lost both legs in a flying accident, Leakey's vigour remains unabated.

Crusades
BBC2, 9.30pm

In *Monty Python's Flying Circus* Terry Jones and friends ran a sketch about a British army suicide squad, the McKamikaze Highlanders, who throw themselves off Edinburgh Castle. Unwittingly they had stolen the idea from a real incident 900 years earlier in the Middle East. *Crusades* continues to be enlivened by such revelations but despite the jokes Jones is a respecter of history. Almost everything is against doing this subject on television. There is no archive film, indeed precious little illustration of any kind, and no survivors are available for interview. It says much for Jones that he can make so much from slender resources. Saladin enters the fray tonight, determined to flush the Christians out of Jerusalem.

Classic Trucks
Channel 4, 8.00pm

If you never imagined becoming dewy-eyed about buses, this nostalgic film might just persuade you. It is set in the 1940s and the 1950s when bus transport was for many still the best, often the only, way of getting about. This was the age of the trolley bus, electrically-powered and therefore smooth and quiet, but reliant on overhead wires. Old colour footage recalls also the AEC Regent, the radically-styled Bedford coaches and the Bristol, with its engine under the floor. In those days even rural routes had full loads. Mass car ownership brought this golden era to an end, though *the film also blames television*. As more people stayed in, profitable late night services declined.

Painting the World
BBC2, 7.30pm

In another erudite tour of his collection, Neil MacGregor, director of the National Gallery in London, discusses European painting in the 16th century. This is not a programme for beginners. MacGregor assumes that viewers know about the Renaissance and Reformation and do not need to have these concepts spelt out for them. But his central theme, of how artists turned away from purely *Christian subjects* and back to the pagan culture of ancient Greece and Rome, emerges clearly enough. Titian and Veronese are among the artists chosen by MacGregor to illustrate the century's love affair with classical antiquity and the new emphasis in painting on human relationships.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (3199927)

9.25 Chain Letters (4678502) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7869106)

10.00 The Time . . . The Place (s) (9960908)

10.35 This Morning (32891521) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7992076)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (7351434)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (7369453) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (34731618)

1.55 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (30746142) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (17763892) **2.50 Blue Heelers** (6784453)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (5213724) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (5212095)

3.30 The Magic House (s) (5265724) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (3551683) **3.50 Twinkle the Dream Being** (s) (7151647) **4.00 Budgie the Little Helicopter** (2090231) **4.15 The Dreamstone** (Teletext) (s) (4114502) **4.40 Chris Cross** (r). (Teletext) (s) (3441095)

5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (2229750). Followed by **The Missing File**

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (263250)

5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (195366)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (279)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (231)

Sandra Gough and Steve Halliwell (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale. *Nellie and Zak Dingle's home is* transformed into a pig-sty. (Teletext) (6182)

7.30 The Big Story. *Dermot Murnaghan follows the* fortunes of four London commuters in their daily hell of driving to the capital (s) (415)

8.00 The Bill: New Management. Cato's abrasive style *leads to a clash with Brownlow (Teletext) (2502)*

8.30 Kavanagh QC: The Sweetest Thing starring John *Thaw. The gruff barrister defends a prostitute* accused of murdering a prominent businessman with many enemies. (Teletext) (s) (44618)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (91057)

10.30 London Tonight *(Teletext) and weather (730057)*

10.40 Network First: The Man Who Saved ***the Animals***. *(Teletext) (741908)*

11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (920665)

12.40am FILM: Tricks of the Trade starring Cindy Williams and Markie Post. The distraught widow of a *stockbroker steps into the murky world of vice after* her husband is shot dead while on one of his regular visits to a prostitute. Directed by Jack Bender (732125)

2.25 The Little Picture Show with Mariella Frostrup (9802361)

3.20 America's Top Ten (s) (7769242)

3.45 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (91062835)

4.10 On the Live Side. *Music for jazz fans (s)* (40770380)

4.30 Videofashion *(39496)*

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (86816)

5.30 ITN Morning News (54670). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Once Upon A Time — Life. An animated exploration of the human body (r) (8805076).

7.00 The Big Breakfast (65499)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (64714)

9.30 Schools: Eureka! (8696989) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (864144) **10.00** Fourways Farm (1450434) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (9206908) **10.25** How We Used to Live (9285415) **10.45** Coming Together (7335347) **11.00** Science Focus (6106279) **11.22** Stage One (4820647) **11.38** Schools at Work (8639434) **11.45** First Edition (9613637)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine introduced by Maya Even (21298)

12.30 Sesame Street (90569) **1.30 Widget** (r) (s) (13196863)

1.55 The Autobiography of a Jeep. A light-hearted history of the general-purpose vehicle (66677144)

2.05 FILM: Yellow Sky (1949, b/w) starring Gregory Peck, Anne Baxter and Richard Widmark. Western drama about an outlaw and his gang who hide out in *a desert ghost town inhabited only by a gold* prospector and his grand-daughter, after robbing a bank in Arizona. Directed by William Wellman. (Teletext) (687415)

4.00 Home Movies. *Life in the west country in days gone* by captured by amateur film-makers (144)

4.30 Countdown *(Teletext) (s) (328)*

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A discussion on *religious cults. (Teletext) (s) (6876231)*

5.50 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons (185989)

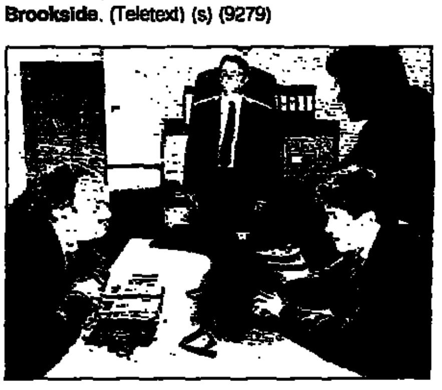
6.00 The Crystal Maze Childrens' Christmas Special (r) (s) (48453)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (420786)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' soapbox (892778)

8.00 Classic Trucks: Ticket to Ride. (Teletext) (s) (5124)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (9279)



Talking heads, Smith and Rhys Jones (9.00pm)

9.00 FILM: Wilt (1989) starring Griff Rhys Jones, Alison Steadman and Mel Smith. Comedy, based on Tom Sharpe's witty novel about a sardonic college lecturer who is suspected of murdering his domineering wife after she disappears. Directed by Michael Tuchner. (Teletext) (24058057)

10.45 Bakersfield PD. California police comedy series. *(Teletext) (s) (547328)*

11.10 FILM: Blue Black Permanent (1992) starring Celia *Imrie and Jack Shepherd. A drama chronicling 50* years of family life in which two tragic deaths cast shadows over the years following. Directed by septuagenarian Orkney film-maker Margaret Tait (449434)

12.50am Football Italia — Mezzanotte. Highlights of Parma v Napoli (7555380)

1.50 Blood, Sweat and Glory. Series on the history of sport (r) (1490816)

2.20 FILM: Crackerjack (1938, b/w) starring Tom Walls and Lilli Palmer. A comedy drama about a latter day Robin Hood who falls foul of a vicious criminal gang. Directed by Albert de Courville (6220019). Ends at ***3.45***

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (7869106) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (7992076) 1.55 A Country Practice (91029705) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (6784453) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (5212095) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2229750) 6.25-7.00 Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (949076) 7.30-8.00 Food Guide (415) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News (730057) 12.40am Django Against Sartana (453106) 2.30 The Little Picture Show (9331038) 3.25 The Beat (9706309) 4.20 Travel Trails (46097125) 4.45-5.00 On the Live Side (20873380)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (7869106) 12.20pm-12.30 Central News and Weather (7992076) 1.55 A Country Practice (91029705) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (6784453) 3.25-3.30 Central News (5212095) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2229750) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (949076) 7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (415) 10.30-10.40 Central News and Weather (730057) 11.40-12.40pm Crime Story (920665) 4.10am Jobfinder (4172831) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (2800361)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (7869106) 12.20pm-12.30 Granada News (7992076) 12.55 Shortland Street (7369453) 1.25 Home and Away (51229989) 1.50 Vanessa (38396601) 2.20 Wish You Were Here...? (17755873) 2.50-3.20 Emmerdale (6784453) 3.25 Granada News (5212095) 3.30-3.40 The Magic House (5265724) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (2229750) 6.25 Granada Tonight (949076) 7.00 Emmerdale (6182) 7.30-8.00 The Main Ingredient (415) 10.30-10.40 Granada News (730057) 11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (920665) 12.40am Tricks of the Trade (732125) 2.25 The Little Picture Show (9828309) 3.15 America's Top Ten (67748) 3.45 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (91062835) 4.10 Jobfinder (4457187) 5.00-5.30 Vanessa (86816)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (7869106) 12.20pm-12.30 HTV West News and Weather (7992076) 2.25 Wish You Were Here...? (17754144) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (7485611) 3.25-3.30 HTV West Headlines (5212095) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (2229750) 6.30-7.00 HTV News (231) 7.30-8.00 West Eye View (415) 10.30-10.40 HTV West Headlines and Weather (730057) 3.15am-3.45 America's Top Ten (67748) 4.10-5.00 Jobfinder (4457187)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 3.25-3.30 HTV Wales News (5212095) 6.30-7.00 Wales Tonight (231) 7.30-8.00 *Primetime* (415) 10.30-10.40 HTV Wales News and Weather (730057)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (7869106) 12.20pm-12.30 Meridian News and Weather (7992076) 1.55 A Country Practice (91029705) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (6784453) 3.25-3.30 Meridian News and Weather (5212095) 5.10 Home and Away (2229750) 5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Making It Happen (175502) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (279) 6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs (231) 7.30-8.00 Held in Trust (415) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News and Weather (730057) 12.40am Django Against Sartana (453106) 2.30 The Little Picture Show (9331038) 3.25 The Beat (9706309) 4.20 Travel Trails (46097125) 4.45 On the Live Side (20873380) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (86816)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 2.25-3.25 The Young Doctors (17754144) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2229750) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (40611) 7.30-8.00 Held in Trust (415) 3.15am-3.45 America's Top Ten (67748) 4.10-5.00 *Jobfinder* (4457187)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (91029705) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (6784453) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2229750) 5.55 Calendar (985847) 6.30-7.00 Runway (231) 7.30-8.00 Good Advice (415) 11.40 BL Stryker - Die Laughing (886362) 1.20am The Little Picture Show (2288309) 2.20 Sport AM (5806485) 3.20 The Beat (2273309) 4.20-5.30 Jobfinder (8772885)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (65499) 9.00 You Bet Your Life (64714) 9.30 Ysgolion (819960) 12.00pm House To House (21298) 12.30 Slot Meithrin (90434) 1.00 Little Miss (71328) 1.30 Hanging With Mr Cooper (39705) 2.00 Ricki Lake (5114786) 2.50 Terrytoons (4335873) 3.00 The Number 10 Show (9415) 3.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (7523144) 4.20 Terrytoons (6183095) 4.30 Saved By The Bell (328) 5.00 5 Pump (4960) 5.30 Countdown (908) 6.00 Newyddion (804502) 6.15 Heno (688463) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (4724) 7.30 Y Ferch Drws Nesa' (647) 8.00 Hela Geiriau (5124) 8.30 Newyddion (9279) 9.00 Y Wlad Sidan (2455) 10.00 Brookside (22927) 10.30 Dim Tafod (53231) 11.30 Ride The High Country (782811)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (52160705) 8.45 Oprah Winfrey (8489796) 9.30 Card Sharks (63786) 10.00 Concentration (94705) 10.30 Candid Camera (34786) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (11960) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (58366) 12.30pm E Street (87502) 1.00 St Elsewhere (62057) 2.00 Heroes — The Return (95434) 3.00 Oprah Winfrey (9760144) 3.50 DJ Kat (3222250) 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (3873) 6.00 Gamesworld (6057) 6.30 Blockbusters (2637) 7.00 E Street (4502) 7.30 M*A*S*H (1521) 8.00 Guns of Honour: First of a two-part mini series about the American Civil War. With Corbin Bernsen and Martin Sheen (82188) 10.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (15163) 11.00 Late Show (215328) 11.45 Littlejohn (934076) 12.30am Chances (62354) 1.30 Night Court (95125) 2.00-6.00 Hitmix Long Play (4240458)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (9349637) 9.30 Fashion TV (38882) 10.30 ABC Nightline (32828) 1.30pm CBS News (91873) 2.30 Parliament Live (88927) 6.05 Richard Littlejohn (875927) 9.30 Target (85908) 11.30 CBS News (81231) 12.30am ABC News (8225361) 1.10 Entertainment This Week (8834125) 2.30 Parliament Replay (72583) 4.30 CBS News (91106) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (95670)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am **Showcase** (2209786) 10.00 **Murder So Sweet** (1993) (78618) 12.00 **City Boy** (1992) (531637) 1.50pm **Madame Bovary** (1991) (81837279) 4.20 **Crooks Anonymous** (1962) (68023927) 5.55 **Murder So Sweet** (1993): As 10am (1697352) 7.30 **Close-Up: Map of the Human Heart** (3389) 8.00 **Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead** (1991) (21724) 10.00 **Husbands and Wives** (1992) (868926) 11.50 **Rush** (1991) (187038) 1.50am **Romantic Comedy** (1983) (598019) 3.30-5.00 **Deadly Strike** (177545)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm **Thems!** (1954) (82873) 8.00 **The Gate II** (1989) (94818) 10.00-12.00 **Pale Rider** (1985) (70540)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am **Harvey, Middleman, Fireman** (1965) (7762298) 7.20 **White Fang** (1993) (4459057) 8.15 **The Magic Riddle** (1991) (92954502) 10.00 **We're No Angels** (1954) (89960) 12.00 **The Pleasure of His Company** (1961) (89809) 2.00pm **The King and Four Queens** (1956) (32647) 4.00 **The Magic Riddle** (1991) (6347) 6.00 **Stolen Babies** (1993) (17521) 8.00 **Race to Freedom: The Underground Railway** (1993) (29366) 10.00 **Cyborg 2** (1993) (798188) 11.40 **Buffy the Vampire Slayer** (1992) (538366) 1.10am **Comrades of Summer** (1993) (536019) 3.00 **Seed People** (1991) (5732090) 4.25-6.55 **Stolen Babies** (1993): As 6pm (611361)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (1943182) 7.15 WWF Mania (136521) 8.15 Soccer News (2012786) 8.30 World of Speed and Beauty (85231) 9.00 Snowbord Tour (89811) 9.30 Aerobics Oz Style (14095) 10.00 The Superstars of European Golf (94231) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (78347) 12.30pm Monday Night Football (92989) 2.30 Powerboat World (81304) 3.30 NBA Action (8057) 4.00 ABC Ten-Pin Bowling (29892) 5.00 WWF Superstars (2927) 6.00 Soccer News (877057) 6.15 Fish-Tales (998540) 6.30 Grass Roots Rugby (9521) 7.00 Boots 'n' All (52618) 8.00 Ringside Boxing (65182) 10.00 Soccer News (316163) 10.15 The Footballer's Football Show (743095) 11.15 Grass Roots Rugby (883892) 11.45 Fish-Tales (237705) 12.00-2.00am Ringside Boxing (86854)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Tennis (15328) 9.00 Live Alpine Skiing (10569) 10.30 Tennis (36960) 11.30 Live Alpine Skiing (94163) 1.00pm Live Tennis (4884892) 5.30 Football (42298) 6.30 News (1989) 7.00 Olympic Magazine (47786) 8.00 Euroski (56434) 9.00 Tennis (78298) 10.00 Snooker (94724) 12.00-12.30am News (28283)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (2702057) 8.30 Peyton Place (2701328) 9.00 As the World Turns (8543453) 10.00 Guiding Light (4035144) 11.00-12.00 Another World (4055908)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (2705144) 12.30pm Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (8948279) 1.00 Trailside — Make Your Own Adventure (4059724) 1.30 Pierre Franey's Cooking in America (8930250) 2.00 California Gold (1027291) 2.30 Discover Your World — Malaysia (8144540) 3.00 American Vacation (7249908) 4.00 Sky Travel Guide — Iceland Week Special (8135892) 4.30 Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (8131076) 5.00 Roads to Freedom (7322683) 5.30 Pierre Franey's Cooking In America (8122328) 6.00 Getaway — Australia (8152569) 6.30 Ticket to Paradise (8136521) 7.00 Moving Postcards — Norfolk (3922827) 7.30 Caribbean Vacation (8132705) 8.00 Around the World in 30 Minutes (1922647) 8.30 Sky Travel Guide (2477732) 9.00 Getaway — Australia (7257927) 9.30 Ticket to Paradise (2928415) 10.00 Roads to Freedom (2706873) 10.30 Moving Postcards — Norfolk (2715521) 11.00 Caribbean Vacation (7229144) 11.30-12.00 California Gold (8281540)

Martin Sheen stars in Guns of Honour (Sky One, 8.00pm)

TLC

9.00am Room Service (7184989) 9.30 The Roux Brothers (2549415) 10.00 Shattered Dishes (4274892) 10.30 Only Human (2867144) 11.30 Discovering Psychology (2009705) 12.00 Extra Dimensions (4474453) 12.45pm Draw with Don (92128724) 1.00 The Roux Brothers (7243453) 1.30 Room Service (2542502) *2.00 Magic or Medicine? (4275521)* 3.00 Video Show (5935750) 3.30-4.00 So You Want to Play Golf with Peter Alliss (7375960)

UK GOLD

7.00am *Give Us a Clue* (7246540) 7.30 Neighbours (7232347) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (7196724) 8.30 EastEnders (7195095) 9.00 The Bill (7186347) 9.30 Sutherland's Law (2108569) *10.30 Big Deal* (2869502) 11.30 No Place Like Home (2001163) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (7199811) 12.30pm Neighbours (2552989) 1.00 EastEnders (7245811) 1.30 The Bill (2544960) 2.00 After Henry (2880683) 2.30 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (7372873) 3.00 Knots Landing (2012279) 4.00 Dallas (2091786) 5.00 Every Second Counts (8801705) 5.40 Captain Pugwash (2987453) 5.55 Porridge (7368989) 6.30 EastEnders (7397182) *7.00 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin* (4585219) 7.30 Sweet Sixteen (7393356) 8.00 After Henry (8290827) 8.30 Just Good Friends (3030124) 9.00 The Sweeney (9355960) 10.00 The Bill (7190540) 10.30 Top of the Pops (6776637) 11.15 Naked Video (3771144) 11.45 Dr Who (9770415) 12.15am FILM. Third Finger Left Hand: With Myrna Loy (4410800) 2.00 Shopping at Night (4233458)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (9313618) 6.55 Garfield and Friends (3542521) 7.25 Eek the Cat (8762908) 7.55 Pugwall (5124989) 8.25 Super Mario Brothers (6373076) 8.45 Casper And Friends (3584231) 9.00 Sesame Street (60811) 10.00 It's Droibee Time (70863) 11.00 Christopher Crocodile (97989) 12.00 Garfield and Friends (29685) 12.30pm Eek the Cat (52279) 1.00 Beverly Hills Teens (91705) 1.30 Super Mario Brothers (80438683) 1.45 Baby Follies (85488188) 2.00 Barney and Friends (3298) 2.30 Babar (3540) 3.00 Casper and Friends (6287637) 3.15 Where's Wally (603106) 3.45 Sonic the Hedgehog (800527) 4.15 Head to Head in 3D (4753328) 4.30-6.00 Pugwall (5796)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (1941724) 7.15 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (190569) 7.45 Rugrats (182540) 8.15 Doug (275724) 8.45 Nickalive! (9277057) 9.00 Nick Jr (947502) 12.00 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (74989) 12.30pm Muppet Show (16453) 1.00 Galaxy High School (64076) 1.30 Banana Sandwich (15724) 2.00 Denver (9322) 2.30 Smoggies (5182) 3.00 Nick Faves (6989) 3.30 Hero Turtles (7927) 4.00 Doug (6434) 4.30 Rugrats (2618) 5.00 Clarissa (1434) 5.30 Nickalive! Featuring Rocko (6298) 6.00 Grimmy (6811) 6.30-7.00 Are You Afraid of the Dark? (7163)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Nature Watch (7394095) 4.30 Australia Wild (7390279) 5.00 Compass (1230142) 6.00 Beyond 2000 (2551250) 7.00 Earth Tremors (9364618) 8.00 Connections 2 (4827539) 8.30 Voyager (5830106) *9.00 First Flights (2011540) 9.30 The Y-Planes* (2563095) 10.00 Discovery Journal (9363989) 11.00-12.00 Nature (7220502)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM The Mesa of Lost Women (1956) (2713273) 1.30pm The Donny and Marie Show (2546328) 2.00 thirtysomething (4279347) *3.00 My Three Sons (1335796)* 3.30 The Beverly Hillbillies (7379786) 4.00 FILM I'll Be Your Sweetheart (1945) (7735732) 6.00 Death Valley Days (7308298) 6.30 Police Woman (2456786) 7.30 Honey West (7388434) 8.00 thirtysomething (9360892) 9.00 The Twilight Zone (2015366) 9.30-12.00 FILM. The Detective: Crime drama with Frank Sinatra (2510095)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (2235328) 7.00 Living Magazine (2238388) 8.00 Health UK (7443502) 8.30 The Truth About Women (7442873) 9.00 Eating Out with John Tovey (4667873) 9.35 Now You See It (7951453) 10.00 Trivia Trap (4404502) 10.30 The Susan Powter Show (7462637) 11.00 The *Young and the Restless* (3375095) 12.00 Bon Voyage (7944809) 12.35pm Kilroy (2020908) 1.30 Family Matters (4196144) 2.00 Agony Hour (4405231) 3.00 Living Magazine (4456705) 3.45 Gladrags and Glamour (87850618) 4.00 Infatuation (5462521) 4.30 Trivia Trap (10686163) 4.55 Delia Smith's Cookery Course 3 (2342502) 5.30 Kate and Allie (5459057) 6.00 The Susan Powter Show (5489298) 6.30 Mr and Mrs (5463250) 7.00 Living Magazine (2469863) 8.00 The Young and the Restless (8421193) 9.00 FILM Jealousy (7218160) *11.00 Mr and Mrs (7376366)* 11.30-12.00 Infatuation UK (4400786)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Danger Mouse (7250) 5.30 Where I Live (1328) 6.00 African Skies (286182) 6.25 All Clued Up (829873) 7.00 Trivial Pursuit (4786) 7.30 My Two Dads (1705) 8.00 Christy (96076) 9.00 Moonlighting (46340) 10.00 Family Catchphrase (79124) 10.30 GP (13892) *11.00 Lou Grant (20322)* 12.00 Rhoda (60293) 12.30am Big Brother Jake (25632) 1.00 Danger Mouse (30748) 1.30 Trivial Pursuit (71583) 2.00 Moonlighting (98922) 3.00 Lou Grant (52767) 4.00 Rhoda (18651) *4.30-5.00 Big Brother Jake (44941)*

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (91293) 6.30 The Grind (74540) 7.00 Awake on the *Wildside (57502)* 8.00 VJ Ingo (884569) 11.00 Soul (99347) 12.00 Greatest Hits (33144) 1.00pm The Afternoon Mix (53057) 3.00 The Pulse (4163) 3.30 *Report (8002163)* 3.45 *CineMatic (8007618)* 4.00 News at Night (4765163) 4.15 3 from 1 (4755786) 4.30 Dial MTV (2434) 5.00 Music *Non-Stop (74279)* 6.30 *Sports (4279)* 7.00 Greatest Hits (89786) 8.00 Most Wanted (41298) 9.30 Beavis and Butt-Head (34873) 10.00 *Report (832786)* 10.15 *CineMatic (860569)* 10.30 News (550873) 10.45 3 from 1 (555328) 11.00 The End? (73569) 1.00am Soul (70903) 2.00 The Grind (21089) 2.30 Night Videos (246274)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (4058095) 9.00 Café (9479057) 12.00 The Bridge (2963811) 1.30pm Ten of the Best (4080347) *2.30 Heart and Soul (7993144)* 3.30 Into the Music (4578231) 6.00 Prime Cuts (8925328) 7.00 VH-1 for You (4383569) 8.00 Rock (4369989) 9.00 Ten of the Best (4372453) 10.00 The Bridge (9556927) 11.30 Today's Top Five (8290298) 12.00 The Nightly (2393274) 2.00 Ten of the Best (5552729) 3.00-7.00 Dawn Patrol (7424835)

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 5am to 7pm, including at 5.00 Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

TV ASIA

6.00am Persian Dawn (27618) 7.00 Asian Morning (46927) 8.30 Bunyaad (29453) 9.00 Gujarati Film (501724) 12.00 Ghar (51540) 1.00pm Hindi FILM (408163) 4.00 Nagar, Pane Roop Nagar (8618) 4.30 Yuganteer (7502) 5.00 Jole Porutham (1076) 5.30 Neengal Kaetta Paadal (1182) 6.00 TVA and You (6811) 6.30 Bunyaad (7163) 7.00 New Music Show Video Junction (43960) 8.00 News (7618) 8.30 New Serial Zindagi (9453) *9.00 Pakistani FILM: Doshezza* (675453) 11.30 Mano Ya Na Mano (32989) 12.00 Asian Morning (49583) 1.30am Sight and Sound (9852800)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Going Underground
7.00pm **Above Suspicion** (1943) (27871618) 8.40 **Betrayed** (1954) (69495502) 10.40 **La Bataille de l'Eau Lourde** (1948) (57885279) 12.30am **Reunion in France** (1942) (87041748) 2.25-5.00 **Escape** (1940) (38902106)

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RACING 41
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SPORT

CRICKET 42
ENGLAND DRAW ON
RESERVES TO FACE
ORDEAL BY SPIN

TUESDAY JANUARY 24 1995

American raises Flinders Park roof after four seeds bow out

Rafter cracks under weight of Agassi's fire

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN MELBOURNE

AT THE start of the second week of the Australian Open, the programme on the centre court started with the unthinkable and ended, in front of only the second sell-out crowd to assemble for a night session at Flinders Park, with the scintillating.

Todd Martin started the bizarre procession with a wholly uncharacteristic display of ineptitude, and three other seeds — Mary Joe Fernandez, Stefan Edberg and Jana Novotna, whose performance was even worse — followed him out of the championships before Andre Agassi restored a sense of order amid frenzy not witnessed here for seven years.

With jewellery embedded in both ear lobes, a scarf wrapped around his shaven skull, a goatee and baggy shorts that flap around his kneecaps, Agassi looks as though he has strolled in from a gypsy encampment. The new image does not disguise his sense of purpose.

The old Agassi, the wayward showman, might have played up to the packed audience during the most publicised duel in the stadium since Pat Cash met Mats Wilander in the 1988 final. The only exhibition laid on by the reformed second seed, though, was of his startling ability.

Agassi subjected Pat Rafter to a merciless drubbing. Australia's golden boy, their only survivor, entered to a rapturous reception and left, 86 minutes later, amid sympathetic applause. The Queenslander, 22, ranked 45th in the world, admitted to a sense of helplessness as he was dismissed 6-3, 6-4, 6-0.

"The court was slow, and my ground strokes were ordinary, so I felt that I had to serve and volley, but he never gave me a volley," Rafter said. "His returns were just going straight past me. He makes you look silly, and he was far too good for me."

Agassi committed a mere three unforced errors throughout the match, yielded four points on his service in the second set, and allowed Rafter a total of only eight in the third. He broke his opponent five times with an array of spectacular returns, and was never remotely threatened himself.

Rafter, with swarthy good looks and an appealing nature, is more likely to make an immediate impact in the marketing arena than on the world's leading players, but his talent is now being honed by Tony Roche, the Australia Davis Cup coach. At least his charge was not inhibited by the weight of expectation.

Results from Flinders Park 40

Rafter relished the raucous atmosphere, likened by Agassi to "the US Open when Jimmy Connors was stirring them up".

In the quarter-final, Agassi will play Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the tenth seed who initially burst to global prominence here last year when he almost knocked out Pete Sampras in the second round. Yesterday, Kafelnikov only had to keep the ball in play while Martin, the eighth seed, fumbled his way to an ignominious defeat. "On bad days, you wonder if it is your eyes, your feet or your arms which are going wrong," he said. "I'm not sure if any of them were working."

Martin, seemingly stuck to the baking artificial surface, went down 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 in 86 minutes. More predictably, Novotna confessed to even greater woes after being eliminated 7-5, 6-0 by the diminutive Angelica Gavaldon, 21, a Californian who represents Mexico, in an hour and a quarter.

Gavaldon: heady heights

Gavaldon has experienced such heady heights before. In 1990, as a qualifier, she beat Hana Mandlikova, now Novotna's coach, on her way to the quarter-final. Disillusioned after losing in the first round a year later, she retired temporarily and did not pick up a racket for six months.

Novotna could not use hers yesterday. "It was horrible," she said. "I don't remember the last time I played so bad." Her misery, featuring 50 unforced errors, was completed when she finished with a couple of double faults. Gavaldon next plays Marianne Werdel Witmeyer.

Naoko Sawamatsu learned a week ago, after 30 vain attempts to reach her parents on the telephone, that her family home in Kobe had collapsed in the earthquake in Japan. She was told that the best tonic would be to succeed here. Suitably inspired, she beat Fernandez 6-4, 7-6.

Sawamatsu usually goes to the net only to shake hands, but she went there 28 times yesterday before fulfilling the formal duties. In her first grand slam tournament quarter-final she will take on the top seed, Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, who has yet to drop a set.

In the third longest match of the championship, lasting 3¾ hours, Edberg visited the net on 239 occasions, but opportunities kept slipping away. The sixth seed took the first two sets against Aaron Krickstein, led 5-2 in the fourth, and held two break points to go 5-4 ahead in the fifth, but Krickstein recovered from a two-set deficit for the ninth time. He now meets Jacco Eltingh, the victor in another prolonged struggle with Patrick McEnroe.

MARK BAKER

Agassi returns another winning backhand during his victory over Rafter

N Zealand yachts set standard for the rest to emulate

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL
IN SAN DIEGO

THE New Zealand America's Cup challengers, *Team New Zealand*, skippered by Russell Coutts, and Chris *TAG Heuer Challenge*, skippered by Chris Dickson, go into the second round-robin trials for the Louis Vuitton Cup next week as the boats to beat for the right to challenge for the America's Cup in May.

Team New Zealand, the well-funded "official" challenger representing the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron, ended the first round undefeated and *TAG Heuer*, Dickson's maverick challenge, lost only one match, on the day that a crewman, Steve Cotton, lost the tips of two fingers in an onboard accident.

Cotton hopes to be fit enough to sail again at the end of February, when Dickson expects to be riding even higher. "We are centainly ahead of where we thought we would be and we are improving every day," Dickson said, when the first round-robin series concluded on Sunday. "I've got a notebook full of things we need to do before we start sailing the second round next Sunday. We have a good team, a good boat — and so many areas to improve."

His narrow Bruce Farr design, which has non-essential crew hunkered down behind the helmsman when sailing upwind, is certainly the most radical in San Diego. The Doug Peterson-designed *Team New Zealand*, which has been sailed impeccably during the opening races, has shown an ability to outpoint her rivals upwind.

On the defender side, *Stars & Stripes*, skippered by Dennis Conner, got the measure of the impressive *Young America*, skippered by Kevin Mahaney, in the final race on Sunday, but he knows that he must make considerable improvements to his boat if he is to stand any chance of competing for the Cup for a record fifth time.

☐ Harry Mitchell, 70, from Great Britain, the last of the BOC Challenge solo round-the-world-race sailors, has reached Sydney, just a week before the depleted fleet sets off on the third stage around Cape Horn to Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Results, page 40

Challenge Cup pairs favourites in enticing encounter

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

LIKE the Lottery jackpot, six balls produced an embarrassment of riches in the fourth-round draw for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, not least the ultimate rugby league Cup tie — between Wigan and St Helens.

The pity is that three of the favourites will fall at the first hurdle, although there is no denying the attraction of ties that pit Leeds against Bradford Northern and Warrington at home to Castleford, as the gasps at the draw in Leeds last night underlined.

These three matches account for six of the seven leading sides in the Stones Bitter championship first division. Huddersfield have no straightforward task away, but Halifax, the fifth-placed team, at least stand a reasonable chance of progressing.

There is no dream tie for the amateur side, Beverley, however. Their upset of Highfield — the first of a professional side for 86 years — was the reward of a home game, although that could now be switched, against Batley, the second-placed club in the second division.

St Helens have twice been the victims at Wembley of Wigan's seven-year domination of the competition. Two years ago, they lost at Central Park in the last 16, and after narrow defeats in the League and the Regal Trophy this season, a return trip is the shortest of short straws.

Denis Betts, Wigan's Great Britain forward, was confident but admitted: "You never can tell with Saints."

As Leeds, the beaten finalists last year, and Warrington have recently overcome Bradford and Castleford at home, they should have the edge in confidence, at least.

In two other all-first division encounters, Doncaster entertain Sheffield Eagles in another derby confrontation, and bottom-placed Hull travel to meet a resurgent Workington Town.

☐ Scott Quinnell, the former Llanelli and Wales rugby union forward, is in the Wigan squad for a possible championship debut at Doncaster tonight. A win would lift Wigan a point clear of Leeds at the top of the first division.

Draw, page 40

Wales demand action over head-butting incident

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) has invited its French counterpart to take "appropriate action" over a head-butting incident during the five nations' championship match between the countries in Paris on Saturday. The incident contributed to the broken leg suffered by Ricky Evans, the Llanelli prop, which is likely to keep him out of the World Cup this summer.

Neither John Pearson, the English referee, nor his touch judges saw the butt by Olivier Merle, the France lock, but television cameras picked up the incident, later confirmed by the Welshman himself, which knocked Evans off balance at a maul. He fell awkwardly, breaking his left leg in two places.

Yesterday, Edward Jones, the WRU secretary, after studying a video recording of the match, contacted the French federation (FFR). "The WRU abhors foul play and I have written . . . expressing grave concern about this incident," he said. "I have asked the FFR to review the video evidence and take appropriate action."

The FFR's response will follow a meeting today. "Bearing in mind the position we have always taken on respect for the game, the disciplinary committee will meet to . . . examine the facts," Bernard Lapasset, the FFR president, said. He promised sanctions if a French player was found guilty of any offence. The most immediate penalty would be exclusion from France's next championship match, against England at Twickenham on February 4. France are expected to name that team tomorrow and if their tribunal views Merle's actions in the same light as Wales, it could mean a place for Olivier Brouzet, of Grenoble, at Twickenham.

Rugby union authorities in Britain are disinclined to use the citing procedure available within 24 hours of a match, though on this occasion the Wales management was not immediately aware of the reasons for Evans's injury. Thought is being given by the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) to the appointment of a neutral commissioner to act in disciplinary matters arising from international matches, and were such an appointment accepted this could fall within his remit.

England should name tomorrow an unchanged XV to play France in a match to be refereed by Ken McCartney, of Scotland. The only injury doubt concerns Martin Johnson, but the Leicester lock was told yesterday that his hamstring problem concerns fibres only and he has not yet ruled out the possibility of playing in the Pilkington Cup fourth round match at Bristol on Saturday.

However, two leading clubs, Harlequins and Northampton, are prepared to withdraw their England players from cup matches this weekend if it means they will be available for crucial league matches later in the season. The England management has asked players to train on the weekends preceding internationals, with the exception of this weekend. But Harlequins and Northampton, threatened with relegation from the first division, are prepared to play, respectively, London Irish and Richmond without them.

Mike Catt, the England full back, has been exonerated by the Rugby Football Union (RFU) after an investigation into payments made to him when Catt appeared for Eastern Province three years ago. He accepted a lump sum for expenses and the RFU concluded that, if blame attached to anyone, it was to administrators who made the payments, and that the IRFB should issue a clear directive to all unions on the question of expenses.

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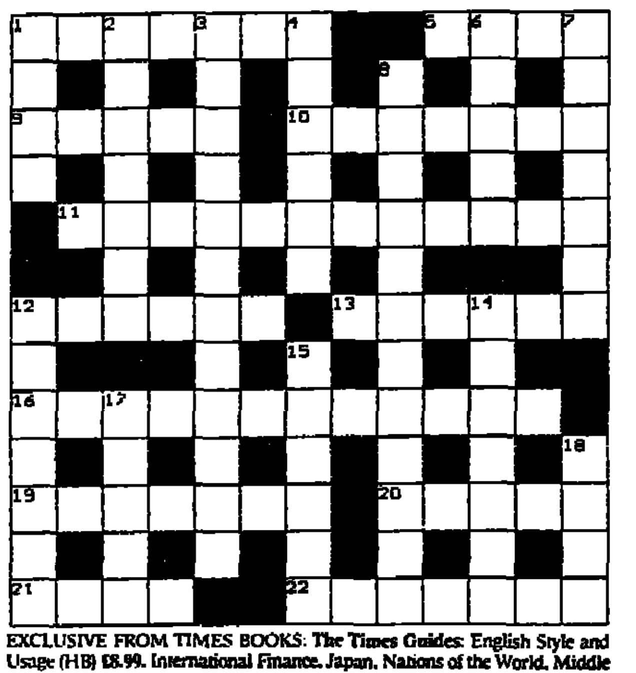
No 377



ACROSS
1 Machine-readable product label (3-4)
5 Coarse, overweight person (4)
9 Item of belief (5)
10 Japanese tidal wave (7)
11 Off-licence (4,8)
12 Indian tent (6)
13 Harassment (6)
16 After-dinner (12)
19 (Bus) without a roof (4-3)
20 – Heep (*Dickens*) (5)
21 Perennial with trunk, *branches* (4)
22 Where to buy playthings (7)

DOWN
1 Morsel: affect hurtfully (4)
2 In progress; making haste (7)
3 Looking to vent anger (2,3,7)
4 Regard, favour (6)
6 Andean ruminant (5)
7 Stiff hair; look angry (7)
8 Puppet show (5,3,4)
12 Obliterate (4,3); fall from surfboard (4-3)
14 Abject; unoriginal (7)
15 Intermittent-motion giver, *works with cam* (6)
17 Sifting device (5)
18 Damage (crockery); golf shot (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 376

ACROSS: 1 Hectic 5 Save 8 Want 9 Alacrity 10 Streaker 11 Curt 12 Hyphen 14 Browse 16 Fair 18 Treatise 20 Grizzled 21 Teem 22 Vein 23 Hairdo

DOWN: 2 Exactly 3 Tithe 4 Chalk and talk 5 Sirocco 6 Voter 7 Hair's breadth 13 Horizon 15 Suspend 17 Agree 19 Tutti

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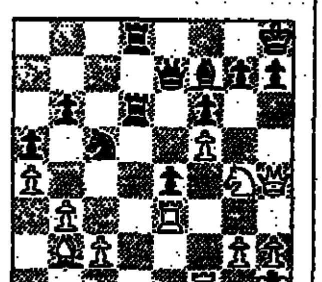
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



This position is a variation from the game Nunn - King, Bundesliga 1986. This position did not actually occur in the game, as Black was alert to his opponent's trickery. What did Nunn have in mind in this position? White to play.

Solution, page 42
Raymond Keene, page 8

[illegible]

By Philip Howard

CHIRAGH
a. An Indian lamp
b. A West country greeting
c. A sweet, light pastry

GREAZE
a. To browse, especially in a library
b. Slang for a crowd
c. To remove oils from fruit

FLOORER
a. One who lays floors
b. A strike in skittles
c. A device used by astronauts

ACUSHLA
a. A rare coronary disorder
b. An African hillock
c. A term of address

Answers on page 42